

STATE LIBRARY OF PENNSYLVANIA

main,stk

366.109748F8775p

Proceedings of the Most Excell

1978-1879 Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter



0 0001 00667070 5

S

366.109748

F8775p

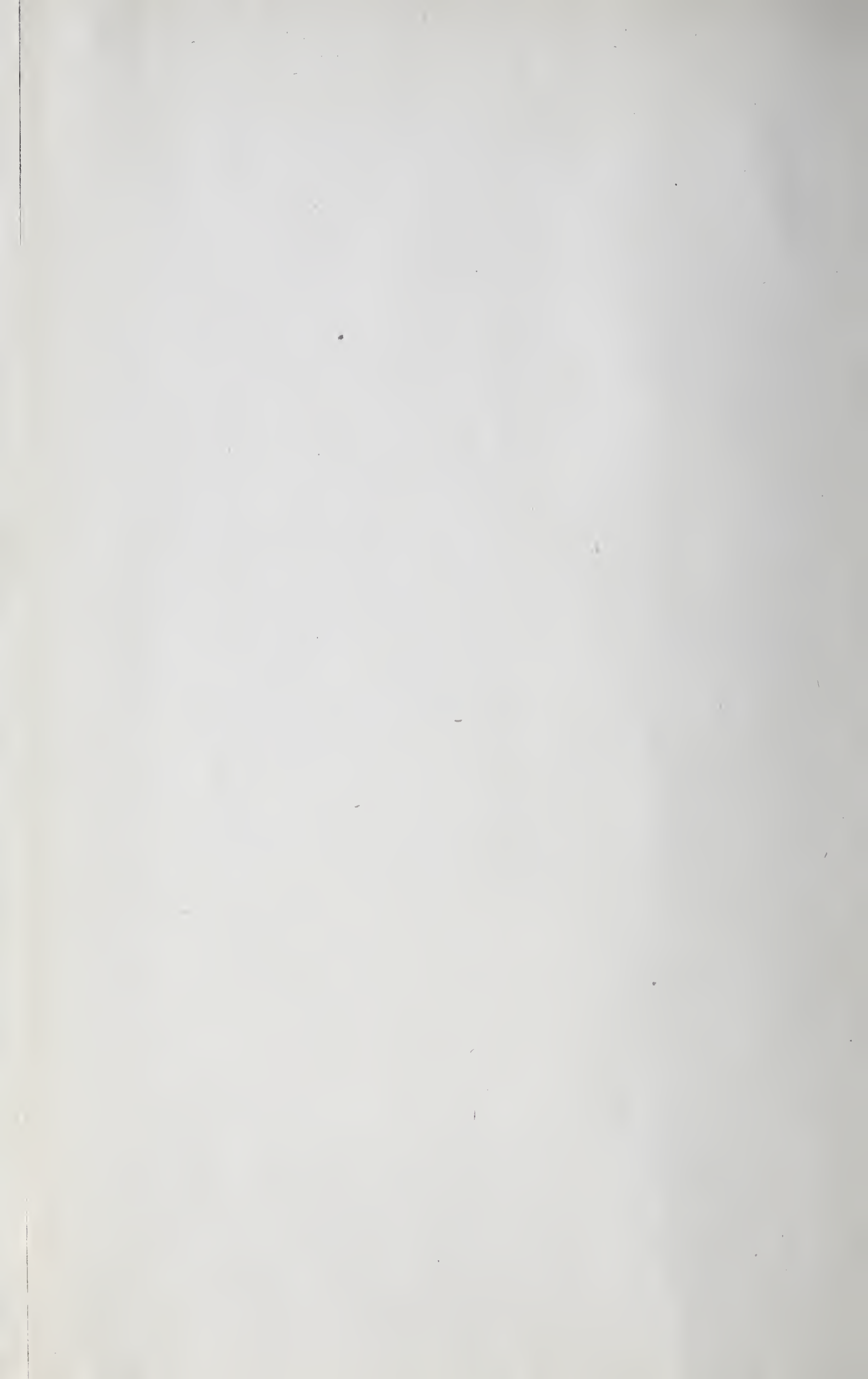
1878-79

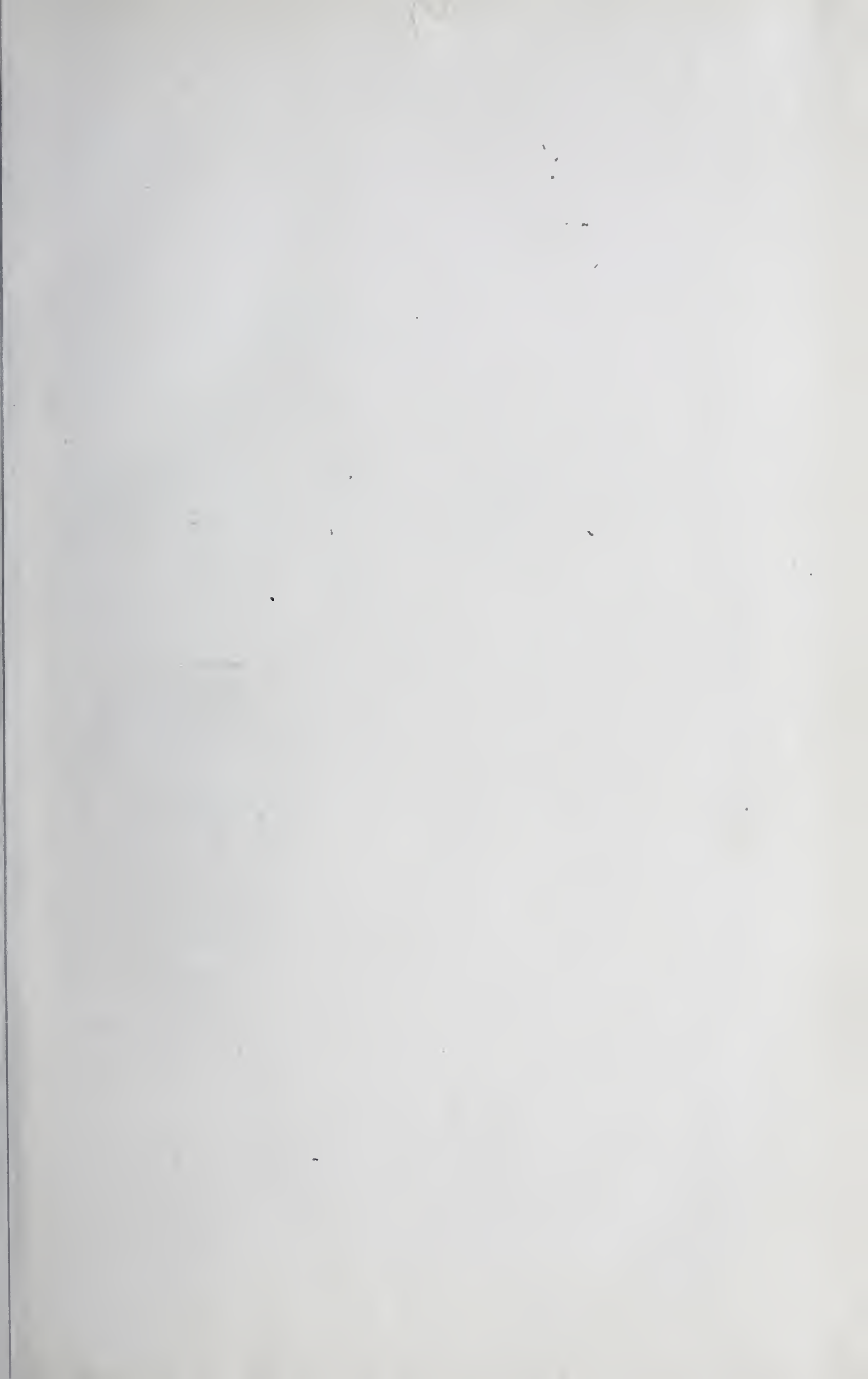
\$
366.109748
F8775p
1878-79

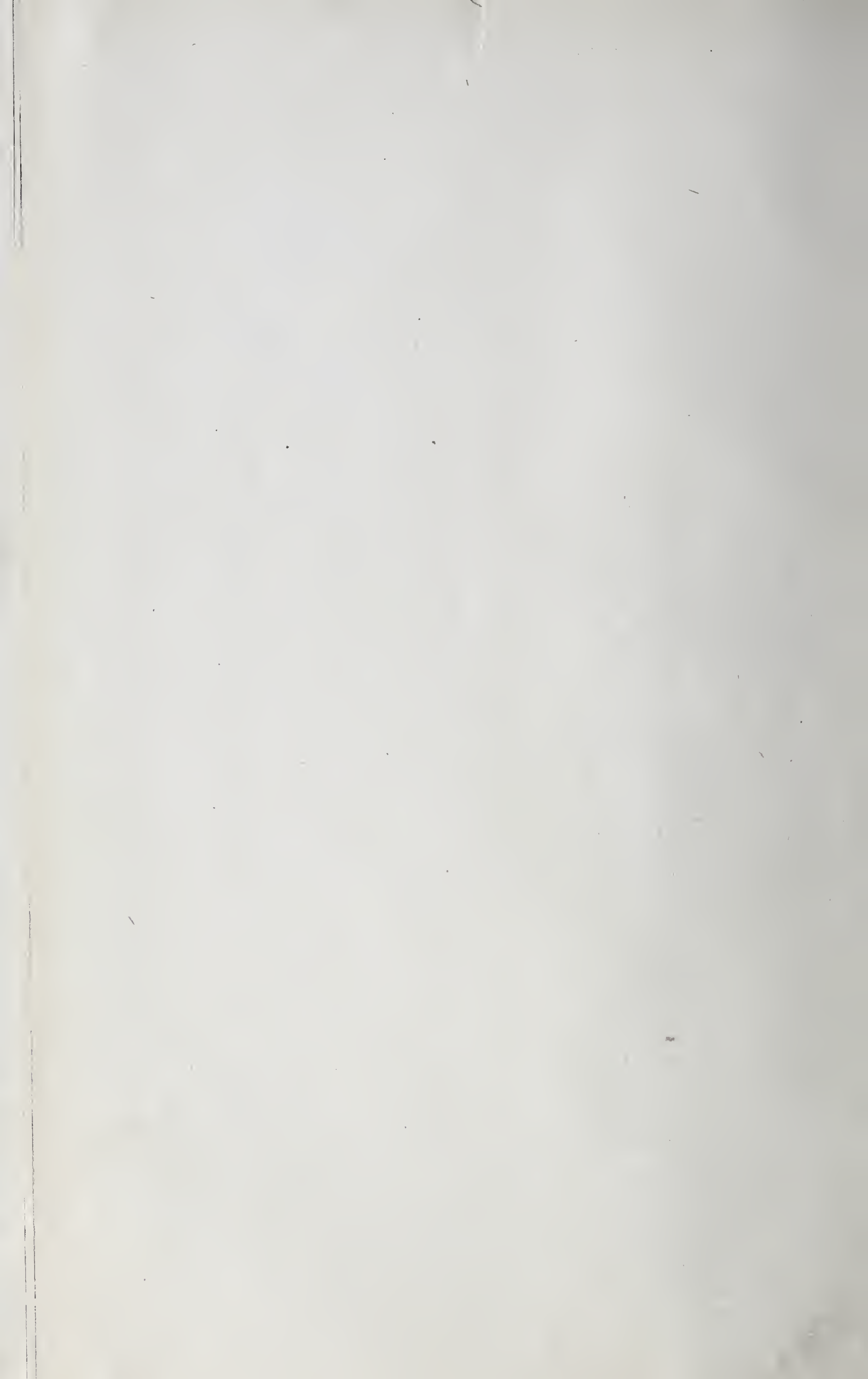




02-49-864 0







PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

MOST EXCELLENT

GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

AND MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING,

Scrit

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27th, 1878.

PHILADELPHIA :

PRINTED FOR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA,
By McCalla & Stavelly, 237-9 Dock Street.

1879.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from

This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries

GRAND

HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER,

OF PENNSYLVANIA.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

Held at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, February 7th, A.D. 1878—A.I. 2408.

PRESENT.

Comp. WILLIAM C. HAMILTON,	.	<i>M. E. Grand King as M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN,	.	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe as M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ GEORGE W. WOOD,	.	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe, P. T.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON,	.	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON,	.	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions THOMPSON, WOOD, GRISCOM, MEYER and WAGNER.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 152, 175, 177, 183, 190, 196, 202, 224, 231, 232, 237, 238, 243, 248, 250, 251.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at 6 o'clock 5 minutes, P. M.

Missive from Fred I. Minet, Grand Zerubbabel of the Grand Chapter of Canada, appointing Companion Thomas R. Patton, Representative of said Grand Chapter, was read, and, on motion, Companion Patton

was recognized as Representative of said Grand Chapter.

General Returns were received from Chapters Nos. 21, 43, 52, 152, 161, 163, 164, 167, 169, 173, 174, 176, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 185, 186, 187, 190, 192, 193, 195, 197, 198, 200, 201, 203, 205, 206, 210, 211, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 222, 225, 226, 228, 234, 238, 240, 247, 248, 249, 250, 252, 253, 256, and Mark Lodges Nos. 91 and 214.

The acting M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion William C. Hamilton, stated that the absence of Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion Alfred R. Potter, was owing to severe indisposition.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report, which was, on motion, accepted, and the resolutions adopted :

To the M. E. G. H. Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania :

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS: Your Committee on By-Laws having carefully examined the By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws referred to them, respectfully submit the following resolutions for your consideration, to wit:

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 199 and 256 be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 244 be amended by striking out of Section 3 of Article IV, the whole of the second paragraph, beginning with the words "In the notices" and ending with the words "of the By-Laws," where it first occurs in the section; by striking out the whole of Section 3, of Article VII, and that they be then approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 183, 237, 247, and 250 be approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendments to the By-Laws

of Chapter No. 253, be amended by striking out "\$12.00" and inserting "\$13.00," and that said Amendment be then approved.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

Chairman of Committee on By-Laws.

PHILADELPHIA, February 7th, 1878, A. I. 2408.

The following Amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter was offered by Companion Thos. S. Woodbury, and laid over under the rules, viz:

Resolved, That Article XV, Section 34, be amended by striking out the entire Section and substituting these words: "The hour of meeting shall be such as is prescribed by the respective By-Laws."

All except Past High Priests who had received the order of High Priesthood having retired, Companion Samuel M. Shelly present High Priest of Chapter No. 238, had the order of High Priesthood conferred upon him.

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 7 o'clock 33 minutes, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

Held at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, May 2d, A.D. 1878—A.I. 2408.

PRESENT.

Comp. ALFRED R. POTTER,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ WILLIAM C. HAMILTON,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions THOMPSON, WOOD, PERKINS, MEYER, and WAGNER.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 152, 169, 175, 183, 190, 208, 209, 216, 233, 234, 237, 240, 243, 248, 250, 251.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at 7 o'clock 5 minutes, P. M.

Communication from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, asking recognition by this Grand Chapter was read; when Past Grand High Priest, Companion Charles E. Meyer offered the following Preamble and Resolution which were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec was legally formed according to the requirements and customs of the fraternity on December 12th, 1876.

AND WHEREAS, The action of the Chapters forming said Grand Chapter of Quebec has received the approval of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and the new Grand Chapter been duly recognized. Therefore be it

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania recognizes and welcomes the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec.

General returns were received from Chapters Nos.

3, 150, 175, 177, 191, 196, 199, 202, 207, 208, 209, 213, 224, 229, 231, 237, 241, 243, 244, 245, 246 and 254.

Companion Thomas S. Woodbury moved to amend his proposed Amendment to the Constitution offered at the Quarterly Communication held February 7th, 1878, by striking out "34" and inserting "24," which was agreed to.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following Report, which was, on motion, accepted, and the resolution adopted :

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the
M. E. Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS: Your Committee on the By-Laws having carefully examined the Amendments to the By-Laws of the various Chapters referred to them, respectfully offer the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 21, 175, 183, and 238, be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,
Chairman.

PHILADELPHIA, May 2d, 1878.

Past Grand High Priest, Companion Charles E. Meyer, moved that the Committee on Printing and Publishing be directed to proceed with the printing of the Annual Proceedings without the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which was not agreed to.

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 7 o'clock 45 minutes, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,
Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

Held at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, August 1st, A.D. 1878—A.I. 2408.

PRESENT.

Comp. ALFRED R. POTTER,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ WILLIAM C. HAMILTON,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions THOMPSON, WOOD, and NISBET.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 169, 175, 183, 190, 208, 231, 232, 233, 243, 248, and 250.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at 7 o'clock 15 minutes, P. M.

General returns were received from Chapters Nos. 166, 194, 230, and 242.

The Amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter proposed by Companion Thomas S. Woodbury, at the Quarterly Communication in February, and amended at the Quarterly Communication in May last, was read, and, on motion, adopted.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report which, on motion, was accepted and resolution adopted :

To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS: Your Committee on By-Laws to whom was referred the various Amendments to the

By-Laws of the several Chapters hereinafter designated having considered the same, beg leave to offer the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 174, 200, 229, and 243, be and the same are hereby approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

Chairman Committee.

PHILADELPHIA, August 1st, 1878.

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 8 o'clock, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

Held at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, November 7th, A. D. 1878—A. I. 2408.

PRESENT.

Comp. ALFRED R. POTTER,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ WILLIAM C. HAMILTON,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON,	.	.	.	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions WOOD, PERKINS, NISBET, MEYER and WAGNER.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 152, 162, 169, 175, 183, 185, 190, 193, 196, 198, 203, 208, 216, 221, 222, 224, 226, 231, 232, 233, 234, 237, 240, 243, 250, 251, 255, 256 and 257—125 members.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at 6 o'clock 15 minutes, P. M.

General return was received from Chapter No. 165.

The Grand Secretary made the following report :

To the M. E. Grand Chapter :

The Grand Secretary respectfully presents the following annual report of the Chapters, Mark Lodges and membership of this jurisdiction for the year ending December 27th, 1877 :

The number of Chapters December 27th, 1876, were	100
Chapters constituted in 1877,	3
<hr/>	
Chapters,	103
Mark Lodges,	3

CHAPTERS.

The number of members December 27th, 1876, were	10,457
Subsequently corrected returns,	15
	<hr/>
	10,442
Admitted to membership during 1877,	37
Marked, exalted, etc.,	505
	<hr/>
	10,984
Resigned during 1877,	160
Suspended or expelled during 1877,	357
Died during 1877,	128
	<hr/>
	645
Members December 27th, 1877,	<hr/>
	10,339

MARK LODGES.

Number of members December 27th, 1876, were	2044
Marked during 1877,	4
	<hr/>
	2048
Resigned during 1877,	6
Suspended and expelled during 1877,	26
Died during 1877,	13
	<hr/>
	45
Number of members December 27th, 1877,	<hr/>
	2003

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

November, 1878.

LIST OF CHAPTERS.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF CHAPTERS FOR 1877.

No. OF CHAPTER	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1876.	ADMITTED.	MARKED, &c.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	RESIGNED.	DIED.	TOTAL.
3	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Monday.....	385	1	23	10	4	4	391
21	Harrisburg.....	First Monday.....	154		8	11	4	4	143
43	Lancaster.....	Fourth Wednesday. ...	274		6	7	3	2	268
52	Philadelphia.....	First Friday	530	2	17	6	2	4	537
91	Philadelphia.....	Third Wednesday.....	389	1	9	4	16	8	371
150	Washington	First Friday	57			2	2		53
152	Reading.....	Second Monday.....	220	1	2	17		1	205
159	Minersville	Thurs. on or bef. F. M.	35					1	34
161	Towanda.	First Friday.....	91		4		2	3	90
162	Pittsburgh.	First Tuesday.....	310	1	13	9		2	313
163	Lock Haven.....	Thursday after F. M....	109		6		2	1	112
164	Brownsville	Second Tuesday.....	30		1		2		29
165	Uniontown	First Thursday.....	42				2		40
166	Hollidaysburg	Third Tuesday.....	61			9			52
167	Rochester	First Wed. after First Fri. on or bef. F. M..	57		1	3			55
169	Philadelphia.....	Third Monday.....	236		9	6	3	2	234
170	New Castle.....	Mon. on or bef. F. M....	42						42
171	Carlisle ...	First Thursday	64		5	5	1	2	61
172	Tunkhannock ...								
173	Easton.....	Fourth Monday.....	161		5	18	8	2	138
174	Sunbury	Tues. bef. F. M.....	57	1	4	12	2	3	45
175	Philadelphia.....	Second Thursday.....	367	1	7	18	5	8	344
176	Chambersburg. ...	Third Monday.....	58		6	4	1	1	58
177	Tamaqua	First Friday after F. M.	68			9		1	58
178	Catawissa	Wed. on or bef. F. M..	35			1			34
179	Carbondale	Wednesday after F. M..	85			3	2		80
180	Montrose	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	51		1				52
181	Mauch Chunk	Fourth Tuesday.....	140		3			1	142
182	Wilkes Barre.....	Third Tuesday.....	85		2	7		1	79
183	Philadelphia.....	Third Thursday.....	585		32	14	8	5	590
185	Scranton.....	Second Tuesday.....	123		1	12	1	1	110
186	Lewistown.....	Third Tuesday.....	64		3			1	66
187	Conneautville.....	Third Friday.....	42			2			40
189	Altoona.	First Thursday.....	73		2	2	5	2	66
190	Norristown.....	Second Monday.....	146	1	8	1	2	5	147
191	Meadville	First Tuesday.....	93		5	1		2	95
192	Greensburg.....	Thurs. after Third Tues.	116	2	4	4	1	2	115
193	Pittsburgh.....	Fourth Thursday	249	1	20	2		1	267

No. OF CHAPTER	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1876	ADMITTED.	MARKED, &c.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	RESIGNED.	DIED.	TOTAL.
194	Wellsboro.....	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	41						41
195	Johnstown.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	50		2	1		2	49
196	Pottsville.....	Monday after F. M....	112		3	1	1	2	111
197	Lebanon.....	Second Tuesday.....	75		1		1	2	73
198	Phoenixville.....	First Sat. after F. M....	93		2		4	2	89
199	York.....	First Wed. after First Monday.....	112		3	9	4	4	98
200	Corry.....	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	64		1		4		61
201	Huntingdon.....	First Tuesday.....	40	1	4			1	44
202	West Chester.....	First Mon. after F. M..	61		4	3	1	2	59
203	Allentown.....	Mon. on or bef. F. M...	147	1	8	1	1		154
204	Honesdale.....								
205	Factoryville.....	Wed. on or bef. F. M..	22			6			16
206	New Brighton....	First Thursday.....	18				3		15
207	Titusville.....	Third Friday.....	123	1	7	14	4	1	112
208	Germantown.....	Fourth Monday.....	124		11	4		1	130
209	Mechanicsburg....	Second Monday.....	47			7		1	39
210	Great Bend.....	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	54		1		1	1	53
211	Franklin.....	Second Thursday.....	62	1	3	1		1	64
212	Greenville.....	Sec. and Fourth Monday	73	2	2		1		76
213	Girard.....	Second Friday.....	18	1	1		1		19
214	Plymouth.....	Friday on or bef. F. M..	43		2	7			38
215	Erie.....	Second Friday.....	74		5	9	1		69
216	Bethlehem.....	Second Monday.....	66		2	5	2		61
217	Allegheny City....	First Friday.....	237	10	10	10	4	2	231
218	Bloomsburg.....	First Wednesday.....	90	2	2	16	5		73
219	Ashland.....	Third Thursday.....	67	1					68
220	Fort Washington..	Thursday bef. F. M....	45		1		4		42
221	Tremont.....	Monday after F. M....	45	1	3			1	48
222	Williamsport.....	Second Tuesday.....	106		1	12	1	1	93
223	Oxford.....	Wednesday after F. M..	42		1	2	1	3	37
224	Columbia.....	Second Tuesday.....	87	1	7		2	2	91
225	Brookville.....	First Monday.....	37					1	36
226	Frankford.....	Third Wednesday.....	116		4			2	118
227	Emporium.....	First and Third Wed...	45		3		5		43
228	Clearfield.....	Sec. Monday aft. F. M..	71			1		6	64
229	Newtown.....	First Wed. after F. M..	38		4				42
230	Ridgway.....	Third Tuesday.....	51			5		1	45
231	Bristol.....	First Sat. after F. M....	48		2			2	48
232	Philadelphia.....	First Tuesday.....	246	2	20	12	1	1	254
233	Kensington.....	Fourth Monday.....	347	1	15	14		3	346
234	Media.....	Thursday after F. M....	49		2		5		46
235	Warren.....	Second Monday.....	33		4	2		1	34
236	Oil City.....	Second Thursday.....	67	1	6		6	1	67
237	Reading.....	First Wednesday.....	134		5			2	137
238	Newport.....	Monday preceding the Tuesday after F. M..	31					1	30
239	Danville.....	First Monday.....	41	1		3			39
240	Philadelphia.....	Second Friday.....	198		10	7	1	2	198

No. OF CHAPTER	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1876.	ADMITTED.	MARKED, &C.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	RESIGNED.	DIED.	TOTAL.
241	Bellefonte	First Friday.....	58				2		56
242	Pittston.	Last Thursday.....	44						44
243	Kensington	First Monday.....	154	1	11	4		2	160
244	Sharon.....	Second Friday	59		3				62
245	Jenkintown.....	Tuesday before F. M...	33		2				35
246	Watson town.....	Wednesday after F. M..	28		1		2		27
247	Kittanning.....	Second Monday.....	63		10		6		67
248	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday.....	131		21	1	2		149
249	Monongahela City.	Thursday after F. M....	20		5	1			24
250	Philadelphia.....	First Monday.....	151	1	21		5	2	166
251	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	103		8		1	1	109
252	Mahanoy City ...	Thursday after F. M....	33		1				34
253	North East.....	Sec. & Fourth Monday.	18		2				20
254	Port Allegheny....	Second Tuesday.....	9		4				13
255	Bedford	Wed. on or before F. M.	21	2	4			1	26
256	Fernwood.....	Wed. on or before F. M.	10	4	21				35
257	Pittsburgh.....	Third Monday.....	33		22				55

RECAPITULATION.

Members, Dec. 27th, 1876.....	10,442	Resigned.....	160
Admitted.....	37	Died	128
Marked and Exalted.....	505	Total.....	10,339
Suspended or Expelled.....	357		

MARK LODGES.

No. OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS. Dec. 27th, 1876.	ADMITTED.	MARKED, &C.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	RESIGNED.	DIED.	TOTAL.
91	Philadelphia.....	758		4	10		10	742
214	Philadelphia.....	784			12	4	3	765
216	Philadelphia.....	502			4	2		496
		2044		4	26	6	13	2003

The Committee on Finance made the following Report, which was received, and the Resolutions adopted.

To the M. E. G. H. Priest, Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania :

The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, and M. E. Grand Secretary, from October 29th, 1877, to October 31st, 1878, inclusive, and found them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing

RECEIPTS.

Balance October 29th, 1877, as per last Report . . .	\$2,510 76
For Dues and Fees from Chapters, Mark Lodges, &c. . .	4,853 24
“ Warrants	200 00
“ Interest on Masonic Loan.	\$1,020 00
“ “ Deposit, Grand Treasurer,	85 80
	<hr/>
“ Sale Certificates, Reprints, &c.,	1,105 80
	56 00
	<hr/>

PAYMENTS.

		\$8,725 80
Paid Orders, Expenses Grand High Priest,		
“ “ Balance Appropriation, 1877 . \$	550 00	
“ “ Appropriation for 1878, . . .	1,200 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,750 00
“ “ Expenses, District Deputy G.		
“ “ High Priests,		190 58
“ “ Salaries from September 30th,		
1877, to September 30th, 1878,		
Grand Secretary,	750 00	
Clerk,	300 00	
Grand Tyler,	100 00	
	<hr/>	1,150 00
“ “ Expenses Grand Chapter, viz:		
John L. Young, for Shoulder		
Belts for Grand Officers,	16 25	
Grand Lodge, rent September		
30th, 1877, to September		
30th, 1878,	2,000 00	
“ “ S. S. Wright, Tuning Organ		
from October, 1877 to Oc-		
tober, 1878,	50 00	
“ “ A. C. Bryson, for printing		
Proceedings for 1877,	292 20	
“ “ Grand Lodge, for proportion of		
stationery, postage stamps,		
&c., for 1877,	87 53	
“ “ For Sundry Printing of Notices,		
Expressage, &c.,	38 45	
“ “ Donation to a P. G. H. P,	50 00	
“ “ Protested Check (since paid)	63 72	
	<hr/>	2,598 15
		<hr/>
		5,688 73
		<hr/>
Balance October 31st, 1878,		\$3,037 07

Amount brought forward	\$3,037 07
To pay balances due on appropriations to December 27th, 1878, to wit :	
Rent from Sept. 30th, 1878, to Dec. 27th, 1878,	\$500 00
Salaries :	
Grand Secretary, from Oct. 1, '78, to Dec. 27, '78,	187 50
Clerk, " " " " "	75 00
Grand Tyler " " " " "	25 00
	<hr/> 787 50
Showing a balance of	\$2,249 57
To which add amount due Grand Chapter as per Balance Sheet,	416 53
	<hr/>
Showing a Surplus over all Appropriations and Expenditures to December 27th, 1878,	\$2,666 10

We have examined the investments held by the M. E. Grand Treasurer, amounting to Seventeen Thousand Dollars, all of which are in Bonds of the Masonic Temple Redemption Loan, and found them correct.

The Committee present the following estimate of the receipts and expenditures for the year 1879.

RECEIPTS.

Dues and fees from Chapters and Mark Lodges,	\$4,200 00
Interest on investments,	1,020 00
Cash on hand October 31st, 1878,	3,037 07
	<hr/>
	\$8,257 07

EXPENDITURES.

Rent for 1879,	\$2,000 00
Salary for Grand Secretary,	750 00
" " Clerk,	300 00
" " Grand Tyler,	100 00
Expenses M. E. Grand High Priest,	1,000 00
" D. D. " " " "	400 00
Printing, including Annual Proceedings, stationery, postage, &c., &c.,	500 00
Balance due on appropriations to December 27th, 1878,	787 50
	<hr/> 5,837 50
	<hr/>
	\$2,419 57

The Committee offer the following resolutions :

Resolved, That appropriations be made for the year 1879, as follows:

For expenses of the M. E. Grand High Priest,	\$1,000 00
“ “ “ D. D. “ “ Priests,	400 00
“ “ “ Grand Chapter for rent, . . .	\$2000 00
“ Printing, including Annual Pro- ceedings, postage, stationery, &c., &c.,	500 00
	<hr/> 2,500 00
“ Salaries,	1,150 00

Resolved, That the Most Excellent Grand High Priest be and he is hereby authorized to draw his Warrants on the Most Excellent Grand Treasurer for the amounts named in the foregoing resolution, as they become due and payable.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be and is hereby directed to purchase \$2,000 of Masonic Temple Redemption Loan for account of the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest be authorized to draw his Warrants for such sum as may be necessary to pay for \$2,000 Masonic Temple Redemption Loan when purchased.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CONRAD B. DAY,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
EDWARD MATTHEWS,
CHARLES W. PACKER.

Annexed hereto is a balance sheet of the Grand Chapter, furnished by the Most Excellent Grand Secretary, showing the accounts of the Grand Chapter on October 31, 1878, and the balances on that date after the closing entries are made for the fiscal year, 1878.

BALANCES OCTOBER 31, 1878.

Dr.				Cr.			
Chapter	No.		\$	Chapter	No.		\$
	150.....		23 25		172.....		60
"	" 165.....		12 00	"	" 194.....		4 40
"	" 176.....		26 40	"	" 195.....		3 60
"	" 178.....		10 20	"	" 212.....		25
"	" 179.....		24 00	"	" 216.....		1 50
"	" 189.....		90	"	" 225.....		70
"	" 199.....		33 90	"	" 254.....		1 70
"	" 206.....		4 50	Dues			4,770 25
"	" 209.....		17 10	Interest			1,105 80
"	" 226.....		57 20	Certificates.....			56 00
"	" 228.....		9 20	Grand Chapter of Pa..			19,933 81
"	" 230.....		1 45	Warrants.			200 00
"	" 236.....		28 65				
"	" 249.....		13 58				
"	" 256.....		55 00				
Mark Lodge No. 216....			99 20				
Cash.			3,037 07				
Investments			17,000 00				
Expenses G. H. P.....			1,750 00				
" D.D. G. H. P.			190 58				
" G. C.....			2,534 43				
Salaries			1,150 00				
			<u>\$26,078 61</u>				<u>\$26,078 61</u>

BALANCES OCTOBER 31, 1878,

AFTER THE CLOSING ENTRIES ARE MADE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR, 1878.

Dr.				Cr.			
Due by Chapters, &c...	\$	416 53		Due to Chapters.....	\$	12.75	
Cash.		3,037 07		Grand Chapter of Penn-			
Investments.		17,000 00		sylvania.....		20,440 85	
		<u>\$20,453 60</u>				<u>\$20,453 60</u>	

Committee on By-Laws made the following report which was, on motion, accepted and the resolution adopted :

To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania :

The Committee on By-Laws having examined the various amendments to the By-Laws hereinafter mentioned, beg leave to report the following resolution for your consideration :

Resolved, That the proposed amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 52, 91, 183, 232 and 250, and of Mark Lodge, No. 91, be and they are hereby approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

Chairman.

PHILADELPHIA, November 7th, 1878.

This being the time set apart by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter for the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, commencing on St. John's Day next, Companion ALFRED R. POTTER, M. E. Grand High Priest, declining re-election, the Grand Chapter proceeded to the election. Tellers were appointed, who reported the following as the result of the ballot :

<i>Most Excellent Grand High Priest,</i>	Companion WILLIAM C. HAMILTON.
“ <i>Grand King,</i>	“ HIBBERT P. JOHN.
“ <i>Grand Scribe,</i>	“ AUGUSTUS R. HALL.
“ <i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	“ THOMAS R. PATTON.
“ <i>Grand Secretary,</i>	“ JOHN THOMSON.

And the Most Excellent Grand High Priest announced that the foregoing Companions were duly elected to the several offices as aforesaid.

Companion JOHN J. BEGGS offered the following amendments to the Constitution, and moved that the

same be considered at the November Communication, 1879:

Amend Section 3, Article VII, as follows: Add to the Section after the word "more" in the third line, as follows: "Except in the election of Grand Chapter officers, when each proxy shall be entitled to cast one vote for each member of his Chapter in good standing, who is a member of the Grand Chapter and who is not at the time personally present."

Amend Section 1, Article III, as follows: Strike out "November" and insert "December."

Amend Section 1, Article IV, as follows: Strike out "February, May, August and November," and insert "March, June, September and December."

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 7 o'clock 55 minutes, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION,

Held at Philadelphia, December 27th, 1878.

PRESENT.

Comp.	ALFRED R. POTTER, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
"	WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
"	HIBBERT P. JOHN, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
"	THOMAS R. PATTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
"	JOHN THOMSON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>
"	J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, . .	<i>Assistant Grand Secretary.</i>
"	B. E. LEHMAN, . . .	<i>D. D. Grand High Priest.</i>
"	AUGUSTUS R. HALL, . . .	<i>Grand Captain of the Host.</i>
"	WM. H. HECK, . . .	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner.</i>
"	H. R. COULOMB, . . .	<i>Grand Royal Arch Captain.</i>
"	REV. THOMAS J. DAVIS, . .	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	EDGAR FRIES, . . .	<i>Grand Master of 3d Vail.</i>
"	JAMES S. BARBER, . . .	<i>Grand Master of 2d Vail.</i>
"	JOHN L. YOUNG, . . .	<i>Grand Master of 1st Vail.</i>
"	EDWARD MASSON, . . .	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
"	WM. H. HOSKINS, . . .	<i>Grand Senior Master of Ceremonies.</i>
"	A. R. UNDERDOWN, . . .	<i>Grand Junior Master of Ceremonies.</i>
"	SAMUEL W. WRAY, . . .	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
"	HARRISON G. CLARK, . .	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions GEORGE W. WOOD, SAMUEL C. PERKINS, MICHAEL NISBET, CHARLES E. MEYER, GEORGE E. WAGNER.

Grand Representatives.—Companion CHARLES E. MEYER, Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales, Grand Chapters of South Carolina, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts.

Companion ALFRED R. POTTER, Grand Chapter of New York.

Companion JOHN L. YOUNG, Grand Chapter of Maine.

Companion GEORGE W. WOOD, Grand Chapter of Virginia.

Companion THOMAS R. PATTON, Grand Chapters of Canada, Nebraska.

Companion MICHAEL NISBET, Grand Chapters of Nova Scotia, Oregon.

Companion SAMUEL C. PERKINS, Grand Chapter of Louisiana.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 169, 175, 183, 190, 208, 212, 216, 224, 232, 233, 240, 243, 245, 250, 251, 256, 257, 258.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form
at 6 o'clock 30 minutes, P. M.

The Grand Secretary acknowledged the receipt of Warrant from Chapter No. 204, which was ordered to be filed with papers of said Chapter.

General returns for 1878 received from Chapters Nos. 159, 162, 170, 171, 182, 189, 198, 214, 215, 222, 233, 235, 237, 249, 251, 257, 258, 259.

Companion Past Grand High Priest CHARLES E. MEYER, on behalf of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Committee on Correspondence, made a report, which was referred to the Grand Officers, with power to make selections for publication (see appendix).

So much of the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter, held November 7, 1878, as relates to the election of officers were read.

The Grand High Priest, Companion ALFRED R. POTTER, then made a valedictory address, as follows:

Companions of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging:

The period of time sanctioned by ancient usage and custom has arrived when the power and authority delegated to me by this Grand Chapter, as its representative, passes into the keeping of one who has been unanimously elected to succeed me.

In reviewing the two years of my official connection with this Grand Chapter, it is a duty I owe you, my Companions, to report, in brief at least, a summary of the various acts performed by me in the discharge of the duties appertaining to the office and in obedience to the obligations taken by me in assuming the responsibilities thereof.

NEW CHAPTERS.

Attended by Grand Officers, I have constituted new Chapters, as follows:

January 15, 1877, Fernwood H. R. A. Chapter, No. 256, located at Fernwood, Delaware County.

May 17, 1877, at Emporium, Cameron County, I constituted Arnold H. R. A. Chapter, No. 254, located at Port Allegheny, McKean County. The Warrant for this Chapter was granted during the administration of my predecessor, but withheld for good and sufficient cause.

On the occasion of placing in the hands of the officers of this new Chapter the Warrant constituting them a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the Grand Officers were greatly assisted by the Companions of Emporium Chapter, who had courteously placed their hall at our disposal, and by their presence aided us in the work. It afforded the Grand Officers much pleasure to meet so intelligent a body of men, as the officers of this Chapter appeared to be, and who gave universal satisfaction as to their ability in dispensing the work of Royal Arch Masons, in accordance with the regulations of this Grand Chapter.

November 26, 1877, in the presence of an unusually large assemblage of Royal Arch Masons, representing Chapters both in our own and other jurisdictions, I constituted with the usual solemn ceremonies, Chester Chapter, No. 258, located at Chester.

On this occasion the Grand Chapter was favored with the presence of the R. W. P. G. M. Companion RICHARD VAUX, who delivered an interesting address.

Chester Chapter No. 258, was organized under the most favorable circumstances.

Thirty-five petitioners, Royal Arch Masons, united in applying for the Warrant, and a large number of applicants have already been received into the Chapter, Companions now, who had for years looked forward to a point of time when this ancient borough should be represented in the Grand Chapter.

In addition to the Chapters already enumerated, there have been constituted by dispensation:

January 15, 1877, at Pittsburg, by D. D. G. H. P. GETER C. SHIDLE, Shiloh Chapter, No. 257.

February 25, 1878, at Edenburg, Clarion County, Eden Chapter, No. 259, by D. D. G. H. P. ANDREW W. COX.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

In reading carefully the reports of the several D. D. Grand High Priests, I have been pained to learn from them of the listless indifference on the part of the Companions, members of Chapters, to the voluntary duties they assumed when entering the institution.

It is true that Capitular Masonry, like every other organization, has suffered and is still suffering from the depressed condition of the times, but that should be no good reason why Companions ought not to assemble in their respective Chapters at the stated periods named, and this if for no other purpose than to encourage each other in the work of life before them, to develop the principles taught them, to do good unto all men, and especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

The D. D. G. H. Priests should inform the Companions of their several Districts as to their duties.

It was a source of regret and astonishment to the Grand Officers in making official visitations in the jurisdiction, to learn that in some instances the Companions had not met for months because there was no work.

In contradistinction to this let me recite a case where a Companion footed it over a mountainous road twelve miles to place of meeting and back, and that with only the light of Heaven above him, the stars to blaze his way.

Or, of another instance in the same district where two Companions traveled by wagon 16 miles, and yet in another district where 44 miles were traveled.

Let me urge on the D. D. G. H. Priests the importance of carrying out the regulations of the Constitution as provided for in Section 7.

In doing that, much of the labor and responsibilities of the Grand Officers would be materially lessened, and the fraternity made more fully acquainted with their duties.

In making these general remarks, there are, of course, exceptions, and I must commend a majority of the District Deputies for the able manner in which they have discharged the duties of office, fulfilling to the letter the regulations required of them in their appointment, and in accordance with the Book of Constitutions.

VISITATIONS.

Beside visiting all the Chapters and Mark Lodges meeting in the Temple, I have traveled several thousand miles in the jurisdiction, holding Grand Chapters, inspecting the work where possible, and suggesting and advising with the District Deputies, the Officers and Companions of the Chapters as to their relative duties, and encouraging them to go on in the good work, by the presence of the Grand Officers.

These visitations have embraced Mauch Chunk, Reading,

Bethlehem, Lock Haven, Erie, Pittsburg, Phoenixville, Chester, West Chester, Pottsville, Ashland, Emporium and Germantown, at all of which places the work was exemplified by the Grand Officers.

And now my Companions of the Grand Chapter for your generous confidence and kindness, and the honor you have conferred on me by calling me to preside over this body as its chief officer, permit me to return you my sincere heartfelt thanks.

To my subordinate officers I must express my acknowledgments for the readiness in which they have at all times responded to the calls of duty, and finally, to my colleagues, the elective Grand Officers, for their counsel and advice I feel under lasting obligations. It is a source of great pleasure for me to record here the entire harmony and unanimity which has characterized all our proceedings.

As Royal Arch Masons, my Companions, may we all be directed by that *Wisdom* which only cometh from above, strengthened by the King of kings, and by the beauty of virtue incited to discharge the obligations and duties resting and enjoined upon us, not only here in this Temple, but in the world in which we move, always remembering, charity is a fundamental principle of all grades of Masonry, for we live not to ourselves, *our work is life*, in bright and ceaseless labors, as the star that shineth unto all worlds but itself.

All but Past High Priests, who had received the order of High Priesthood, having retired, Companion WILLIAM C. HAMILTON was duly installed Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was duly proclaimed, and received the salutations of his Companions.

The Companions who had retired were then re-admitted. After which the following named Companions were duly installed and severally proclaimed, and received the salutations of the craft.

Companion	HIBBERT P. JOHN,	. . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
"	AUGUSTUS R. HALL,	. . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
"	THOMAS R. PATTON,	. . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
"	JOHN THOMSON,	. . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest made the following address :

COMPANIONS: Through your partiality, the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction has been placed under my supervision for the ensuing Masonic year, and I cannot but feel I am responsible to you for the beneficial exercise of the authority which you have delegated to me.

There are resting upon us, as individual Royal Arch Masons, obligations which if faithfully performed, would make this or any administration that will ever exist, noted for beneficial results to the craft, and which would enable us all to experience reciprocal pleasure in the discharge of every duty. Energy, zeal and dignity are pre-eminently required of us, and should ever mark and distinguish our career as Royal Arch Masons; our devotion to the institution should be of that disinterested character which flows from a heart warmed by honest love for its principles. Thus would we secure in our midst that spirit of harmony which is so necessary to our present well-being, and our future growth and prosperity.

Harmony is the natural outgrowth of order, and it has been well said, "order is the first law of Heaven;" let us adopt it as our first law; for in proportion as we maintain the law of order in our midst, in the same ratio will we escape the perils of disorganization.

For the well-being of the Companions of this jurisdiction, good and wholesome laws have been enacted; and as it is the duty of the Grand High Priest to see them duly enforced, it is equally the duty of the Companions, for whose good they were enacted, to know, understand and obey them. Law is one thing, loyalty thereto another, both are equally essential to a successful government.

Insubordination is always productive of great mischief, it paralyzes all action, jeopardizes every interest, and invariably brings disgrace upon the offender. While on the contrary, implicit obedience to our rules and regulations, and a spirit of loyal subordination, is evidence of that true greatness of character, which should be possessed by every member of the institution.

There is, I regret to say, a disposition among thoughtless Companions to modernize ancient Masonry, by casting aside the usages and customs that have existed for years, and substituting that which would be most subservient to their in-

dividual interest ; this is indirect disloyalty to the institution, and equally subversive of that order, in the absence of which everything would rush into wild confusion. It is our duty to discountenance these attempts at innovation, and guard well our inheritance, and instead of trying to improve, study well that which has been handed down to us by the fathers in Masonry, until we shall become imbued with its principles, then, and then only can we become its true and faithful exponents.

Whilst in order to have complete unity, it is necessary that our rules and regulations should be firmly and impartially administered, loyalty and implicit obedience thereto manifested by all, and that we evince a general spirit of conservatism as a safeguard against innovation, it is equally important that we should possess individual stability of character. The ultimate end to be obtained is not merely numerical strength, but a membership that shall have firmness of purpose in studying and applying to their individual good, those sublime truths that are veiled in our symbolism ; this alone can give strength, tone and power to the institution.

The individual who enters the portals of our Chapter, and passes through our solemn ceremonies simply for the eclat or honor of being called a Royal Arch Mason, is apt to be a drone in the hive, and not "a worker, who needeth not to be ashamed."

When we find in a Mason true stability of character, it is invariably the offspring of an industrious mind, zealously laboring for the attainment of higher and nobler achievements in the paths of Masonic science and research ; and upon whose efforts in that grand field of labor, depends the perpetuity of our institution.

Doubtless you may have noticed that it is the idler who causes the mischief, when there is any, in our organization. A spirit of fault-finding takes possession of him ; he discovers neither virtue nor utility in anything that others do ; he attaches evil motives to the purest and most self-denying efforts, and constantly complains that there is nothing done properly. We would say without hesitation, that the best cure for this bad spirit is, for its possessor to *go to work*, and by something of practical good he may accomplish, seek to build up and strengthen our glorious brotherhood.

It cannot be otherwise, than that Companions will differ in their opinions on many questions that may come up for consideration in this Grand Body ; if such should be the case,

let them differ courteously and in the spirit of true brethren, and not one give utterance to a word that will grate harshly upon the sensibilities of the other. Forget not the beautiful lessons of the Mark Degree, be ever ready to forgive and forget any real or imaginary injury. Cherish not a resentful spirit, for it will be as a thorn in your flesh, and a constant cause of peril to the harmony of the institution.

Always rejoice in each other's well-being, and thus being under the inspiration of benevolent impulses, your combined influences will be like the commingling of the perennial streams of many fountains, uniting harmoniously and forming the majestic river, gliding peacefully onward to the ocean, deep, broad, grand and powerful. "Behold how good a thing, and how becoming is unity among brethren."

To my Companions in office, I would say, that to-night there has been placed in our keeping a sacred trust, the administration of the affairs of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing Masonic year. Let us be true to this trust, for we are all equally interested in upholding her honor and promoting the good of the Royal Art; let us do this so that we may hand down to our successors with beneficent results the ancient inheritance. As our Companions have placed this honor upon us, with all its duties and responsibilities, it is for us to demonstrate to them, by our conduct on all occasions, that they have not taken the shadow for the substance. Let us endeavor to vindicate their action, by a diligent discharge of all the duties pertaining to our several stations. It behooves us especially to familiarize ourselves with the laws, usages and customs of Royal Arch Masonry, and administer them with inflexible impartiality, unswerving firmness, and in the spirit of true charity. It will be ours to rule in love, and thus foster the spirit of fraternity in the hearts of those over whom we are called upon to preside. Let us practice the same forbearance toward them that we hope they will extend toward us, and bear ourselves at all times with that integrity that will secure their approval and that dignity which will command their respect. Now, my Companions, let the thought that we are working, not only for the present, but for the great future, keep us faithful at the post of duty, so that when we shall have laid aside the robes of office, and others shall occupy these stations, they may, in retrospection, be able to gather incentives to industry and well-doing from our example.

Feeling assured of your sympathy and hearty co-opera-

tion, I enter upon the duties of this office with abounding hope, and I trust that the Great Architect of the Universe will keep our feet in the path of duty and endow us with that wisdom which cometh from above.

The M. E. Grand High Priest was pleased to make the following appointments:

Grand Captain of the Host :

Comp. GEO. W. KENDRICK, JR.

Grand Principal Sojourner :

Comp. JOHN KELLER, JR.

Grand R. A. Captain :

Comp. HENRY R. COULOMB.

Grand Chaplain :

Comp. Rev. THOS. J. DAVIS.

Grand Master of 3d Vail :

Comp. JAMES S. BARBER.

Grand Master of 2d Vail :

Comp. ALEX. H. MORGAN.

Grand Master of 1st Vail :

Comp. WM. H. HECK.

Grand Marshal :

Comp. EDWARD MASSON.

S. G. Master of Ceremonies :

Comp. CHAS. W. NOLEN.

J. G. Master of Ceremonies :

Comp. WM. H. HOSKINS.

Grand Pursuivant :

Comp. JOHN L. YOUNG.

Grand Tyler :

Comp. HARRISON G. CLARK.

Committee on Work :

Comp. GEORGE W. WOOD, P. G. H. P.
 " MICHAEL NISBET, "
 " DANIEL THOMPSON, "
 " CHARLES E. MEYER, "
 " JOHN THOMSON, G. S.

Committee on Finance :

Comp. CONRAD B. DAY,
 " CHARLES W. PACKER,
 " M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
 " JOHN CURTIS,
 " CHARLES D. FREEMAN.

Committee on Correspondence :

Comp. CHARLES E. MEYER, P. G. H. P.
 " THOMAS JACOBS,
 " OSCAR THOMPSON,
 " LOUIS WAGNER,
 " SAMUEL HARPER.

Committee on By-Laws :

Comp. J. ALEX. SIMPSON,
 " SAMUEL McCAMBRIDGE,
 " JOHN ROBERTS,
 " ROBERT C. FLOYD,
 " HENRY J. WHITE.

Committee on Appeals :

Comp. SAMUEL C. PERKINS, P. G. H. P.
 " ALFRED R. POTTER, "
 " GEORGE E. WAGNER, "
 " CHARLES H. KINGSTON,
 " EDWARD STRICKLAND.

Committee on Charity :

Comp. SAMUEL W. WRAY,
 “ B. FRANK ABBETT,
 “ ISAAC MUFF,
 “ ARTHUR H. WOODWARD,
 “ DAVID S. CRAVEN.

Committee on Printing and Publishing :

Comp. DENNIS F. DEALY,
 “ CHARLES CARY,
 “ WILLIAM MEESER,
 “ EDGAR FRIES,
 “ WILLIAM H. MITCHELL.

District Deputy Grand High Priests :

- 1.—Companion ANDREW J. KAUFFMAN, of Columbia, for Counties of Lancaster, York and Adams.
- 2.—Companion CHARLES ROBERTS, of Chester, for Counties of Chester and Delaware, except Chapter No. 198, at Phoenixville.
- 3.—Companion ROBERT SNODGRASS, of Harrisburg, for Counties of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin and Fulton.
- 4.—Companion JOHN SLINGLUFF, of Norristown, for Counties of Montgomery, Bucks, and Chapter No. 198, at Phoenixville.
- 5.—Companion JESSE ORR, of Reading, for Counties of Berks and Lebanon.
- 6.—Companion ABRAHAM K. WHITNER, of Pottsville, for County of Schuylkill.

- 7.—Companion BERNARD E. LEHMAN, of Bethlehem, for Counties of Northampton, Lehigh and Carbon.
- 8.—Companion THADDEUS S. HILLARD, of Wilkesbarre, for Counties of Luzerne, Lackawanna and Monroe.
- 9.—Companion JAMES H. CODDING, of Towanda, for Counties of Bradford, Wyoming and Sullivan.
- 10.—Companion JOHN H. DUSENBERRY, of Great Bend, for Counties of Susquehanna, Wayne and Pike.
- 11.—Companion ROBERT C. SIMPSON, of Wellsboro', for Counties of Tioga, Potter and McKean.
- 12.—Companion ALEXANDER J. FRICK, of Danville, for Counties of Columbia, Montour and Northumberland.
- 13.—Companion GEORGE S. SNYDER, of Williamsport, for Counties of Lycoming, Clinton, Centre, Union and Snyder.
- 14.—Companion GILMAN T. WHEELER, of Ridgway, for Counties of Elk and Cameron.
- 15.—Companion BENJAMIN F. CUSTER, of Altoona, for Counties of Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Bedford and Clearfield.
- 16.—Companion JOHN P. CLARK, of Newport, for Counties of Perry, Mifflin and Juniata.
- 17.—Companion PHILIP M. HOCHHEIMER, of Uniontown, for Counties of Washington, Fayette, Greene, and Somerset.
- 18.—Companion GETER C. SHIDLE, of Pittsburgh, for Counties of Allegheny, Westmoreland, Armstrong, Butler, Indiana and Beaver.

19.—Companion ANDREW W. COX, of Oil City, for Counties of Venango, Warren, Forrest, Clarion and Jefferson.

20.—Companion MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, of Sharon, for Counties of Mercer, Lawrence, Crawford and Erie.

The Grand Secretary was pleased to appoint Companion J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, Assistant Grand Secretary, which was approved by the Grand Chapter.

All but High Priests, who had received the order of High Priesthood, having retired, the M. E. Grand High Priest was pleased to confer the order of High Priesthood upon Past High Priest Companion Rev. Wm. J. Bridells, of Corinthian Chapter, No. 224.

The Grand Chapter closed in peace at 8 o'clock, P.M.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

INSTRUCTIONS

TO THE

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

OFFICE OF THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF THE
 GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA,
 AND MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING.

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, December 27th, A. D. 1878, A. I. 2408.

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION: In appointing you to the office of District Deputy Grand High Priest, I do so with full confidence in your skill and capacity. And I hope that during the present year you will prove your devotion to the Grand Chapter, by a faithful and diligent discharge of the duties of your office, as defined in the Constitution; also in rendering prompt obedience to the instructions contained in this Circular Letter of Instruction.

I.—You will visit every Chapter in your District, at least once during the year, and as soon after the receipt of your commission as possible; your expenses incurred in making such visit will be defrayed when you render an account of the same.

II.—All officers and Members of Chapters in your District should, in the first instance, address you upon all questions of Law or Work. Your decisions and correspondence you will cause to be preserved as part of the official record of your administration.

Through you, all appeals to this office must be made ; and with every appeal, you will send a copy of your decision to which said appeal refers, and also of the correspondence relating thereto. All correspondence relating to your official duties must be addressed to the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

III.—You will enter in your Record Book, the date of your visits to the several Chapters in your District, the result thereof, and such other information regarding Capitular Masonry as may be useful or important. This book must be sent to the Grand Secretary, for the examination of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, before the 20th day of December next.

IV.—You will see that every Chapter in your District is in possession of one or more copies of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, adopted November 3d, A. D. 1871, A. I. 2401, together with the Amendments thereto, since adopted ; and you will read, or cause to be read, in each Chapter, from time to time, for the information of the Companions, the sections of Article XV, relating to membership, conferring of degrees, etc.

V.—It is my desire that the Officers of the respective Chapters should do their own work. You will therefore see that they are properly instructed in the ritual, and for this purpose you should convene them as often as possible during the year.

VI.—The Order of High Priesthood should be given when the High Priest-elect is installed, this I consider important, and desire that the Past High Priests of the several Chapters in your District be instructed in the ceremonies thereof, so that in case you cannot be with them, they may be able to install their officers according to requirement.

VII.—You will notify the Secretary of each Chapter in your District to send to this office one of the blank forms of

application for the degrees and membership, used by said Chapter; and also to make the annual returns promptly, stating at the same time how many meetings has been held by the Chapter during the Masonic year.

VIII.—You will send one of the enclosed Circular Letter of Instructions to the Secretary of every Chapter in your District, with instructions to read in open Chapter, and spread in full upon the minutes.

IX.—All former regulations inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby countermanded.

Fraternally Yours,

WILLIAM C. HAMILTON,
Grand High Priest.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

PHILADELPHIA, December 27, 1878.

To ALFRED R. POTTER, Esq.,

M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Penna. :

M. E. COMPANION: In compliance with your note, dated November 25, 1878, requesting that I should prepare a report on Foreign Correspondence, to be presented on St. John's Day next, December 27, 1878, I have the honor to submit the following, regretting that time could not be allowed to present a more full and creditable report, one that would prove satisfactory to yourself and the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

The proceeding received and reviewed are as follows. We have taken the responsibility to depart from the usual custom of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence, and in our review the Grand Chapters will be found, as here arranged :

Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, 1878. •

Grand Chapter of Canada, 1878.

“ “ Quebec, 1876, 1877.

“ “ Virginia, 1877.

“ “ Texas, 1877.

General Grand Chapter, 1877.

Alabama, 1877.

Connecticut, 1878.

Arkansas, 1877.

Delaware, 1878.

California, 1878.

District of Columbia, 1877.

Colorado, 1877, 1878.

Florida, 1878.

Georgia, 1878.	Mississippi, 1878.
Illinois, 1877.	Nebraska, 1877.
Indiana, 1878.	New Hampshire, 1878.
Iowa, 1877.	New Jersey, 1878.
Kansas, 1877.	New York, 1878.
Kentucky, 1877.	Nevada, 1878.
Louisiana, 1878.	North Carolina, 1878.
Maine, 1878.	Ohio, 1877.
Maryland, 1877.	Oregon, 1878.
Massachusetts, 1877.	Rhode Island, 1878.
Michigan, 1878.	South Carolina, 1878.
Minnesota, 1877.	Tennessee, 1877.
Missouri, 1878.	Vermont, 1878.
	Wisconsin, 1878.

These 41 Grand Chapters, represent every Grand Body with which the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is in correspondence, with the exception of the Grand Mark Lodge of England.

SCOTLAND—1878.

The Reporter, Vol. II, No. 8, of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, dated March, 1878, has been received.

The business of the Grand Chapter is first brought before a Supreme Committee, who examine the subject and report what action is necessary to be taken by the Grand Chapter.

We notice that when the Representative of a Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Scotland is appointed, he has to be installed as Representative by the Grand Chapter of Scotland before he can serve.

At the Committee Meeting, September 10th, 1877, the following action was taken:

Having taken into consideration a communication from the Operative Chapter, Aberdeen, No. 41, as to the prejudicial effect the want of the Past Master's Degree had upon Brethren going to America, it was unanimously resolved to

recommend the Supreme Chapter to direct a communication to be sent to the Representatives of the Supreme Chapter in the United States of America, in order to attempt some arrangement for the removal of the difficulties complained of.

At the Quarterly Meeting of Grand Chapter, held September 19th, 1877, the following was had:

Having taken into consideration a memorial from the Operative Chapter, Aberdeen, No. 41, on the subject of the difficulties experienced by Members of that Chapter while visiting America, in getting admittance to Royal Arch Chapters there, in consequence of the abolition of the Degree of Past Masters, which degree is worked in America. The Supreme Chapter directed their Representatives at the Grand Chapters of America to be communicated with by the Representatives of the Grand Chapters here, to see if any arrangements could be made.

At the Committee Meeting of December 10th, 1877, report was made on the above.

The Grand Scribe E. laid before the Meeting replies from the Representatives of the Supreme Chapter at the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Nova Scotia, to the letters addressed to them on the subject of the difficulty experienced by Scotch Royal Arch Masons on getting admission to American Chapters in consequence of the abolition in this country of the Past Master's degree. It was resolved to lay these letters before the Supreme Chapter.

At the Quarterly Meeting of December 19th, 1877, the above was brought before Grand Chapter.

The Grand Scribe E. read letters from the Representatives of the Supreme Chapter at the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, U. S. and Nova Scotia, in reply to the communications addressed to them on the subject of the Past Master's Degree in America. When it was resolved to defer further consideration of the subject until replies from the other Representatives were received.

The minimum fee for the Royal Arch in Glasgow was made £2 2s (\$10.50).

136 Chapters. 9 Mark Lodges. 18 Dormant Mark Lodges.

2 Chapters upwards of 2 years in arrears of returns, and

28 Chapters upwards of 10 years in arrears.

Sir Michael R. Shaw-Stewart, Bart., First Grand Principal.
Lindsay Mackersy, W.S., 3 North St. David Street, Edinburgh, Grand Scribe E. and Grand Secretary.

CANADA—1878.

The Twenty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, was held in Hamilton, August 14th, 1878.

Most Excellent Comp. Fred. J. Menet, Grand Zerubbabel (Grand High Priest), presiding.

Sixty-six Chapters were represented.

The *Craftsman*, a Masonic newspaper, was, on motion, declared the official organ of the Grand Chapter. The business transacted was of local interest.

Comp. Henry Robertson presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of forty Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania *not* of the number.

He presents the following under the head of Ireland :

“Through the kindness of Comp. James H. Neilson, of Dublin, the eminent Masonic Archæologist, we have been favored with a copy of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Ireland, and several pamphlets, from which we obtain the following information:

“The Principal Grand Officers for 1878, are:

“Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D., King.

“Chas. C. Macnamara, Deputy.

“Chas. A. Cameron, High Priest.

“John F. Goodman, Chief Scribe.

“S. B. Oldham (Dublin), Registrar.

“The Grand Chapter meets in Stated Convocations four times in each year, in the months of February, May, July and November. The Board of General Purposes meets on the Friday preceding each quarterly Convocation.

“They have also a Grand Chapter of Instruction, which meets six times in the year; and a Grand Committee of Inspection, meeting monthly. With all these meetings they should be kept in good order, as no doubt they are; but as they do not publish their Proceedings, we are left in the dark about many things which we would like to know.

“The receipts for 1877 were £537.3.0. Among the items we notice, Fees of Officers, £99.7.0; Certificates and Regis-

try, £278.6.3; and Fines, £35.12.0. The expenses were £386.1.8; besides appropriations of £150 each, to the Masonic Female Orphan School and the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, and the purchase of £800 worth of India 4 per cent. stock.

"Three new warrants were issued in 1877; one for a Chapter in Bermuda, and the other two in Ireland. Six Chapters surrendered their Warrants, one in Constantinople, two in Australia and three in Ireland.

"From the Constitution, we learn that the chief officers in the Chapter are, King, High Priest and Chief Scribe. The Grand Master, if a Past King, is the Grand King, otherwise one is elected.

"No Chapter can be opened or remain open, unless six Companions are present, one of whom must be a King or Past King. There are six subordinate officers, viz: Captain of the Host, Superintendent of the Tabernacle, Royal Arch Captain and three Captains of Vails.

"All candidates for exaltation in Dublin must be approved of by the Committee of Inspection. This Committee consists of all Grand Officers, and the King of every Dublin Chapter. Their duties appear to be solely to decide upon the admissibility of candidates, and they do not consider any case, until after the candidate has been balloted for and approved in the Chapter he proposes to join. This furnishes an additional safeguard against the admission of unworthy members, but it would not suit in this country at all.

"The Mark Degree is worked under the Chapter, but not the Past Master nor the Most Excellent Master."

Seventy-four Chapters; membership of 3,334; gain, 152.

Fred. J. Menet, Toronto, Zerubbabel.

Daniel McLellan, Hamilton, Grand Scribe E.

QUEBEC—1876–1877.

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was organized on December 12th, 1876, in the city of Montreal. The entire action in the formation of the Grand Chapter was so consonant with Masonic teachings that we desire to congratulate the Companions thereon. With such a happy beginning the growth must be onward and upward. Everything was unanimous.

The First Annual Convocation was held in Montreal, September 27th, 1877.

Most Excellent Comp. J. H. Graham, Grand Zerubbabel, presiding.

A delegation, headed by Grand Secretary Whitcomb, from the Grand Chapter of Vermont, was present and received with high honors. The proceedings were mostly of local interest.

Comp. J. T. McMinn presents a report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of fifteen Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania *not* of the number. The review shows considerable care and a knowledge of the American system of Royal Arch Masonry.

Nine Chapters, membership of 439.

John Hamilton Graham, Richmond, Grand Zerubbabel.

James T. McMinn, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.

VIRGINIA—1877.

The Grand Chapter of Virginia held its Annual Convocation in Richmond, December 13, 1877.

The Proceedings are enhanced in value by a steel plate portrait of that veteran in Masonry, the late Comp. John Dove, Grand Secretary.

Eighteen Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest, Comp. Wm. H. Lambert, opened the Grand Chapter, after which he delivered the annual address. In this address he gives some Masonic experience:

“In my experience of nearly a quarter of century, in both Lodge and Chapter, I have witnessed brilliant Masonic meteors flash in our Halls, who were all zeal and eloquence, who, disdaining to fill the humbler positions, aspired to the highest posts of honor, unskilled in the Ritual, ignorant of our laws, and unimbued with the fundamental principles of Masonry, their career was soon ended, they became drones in the hive, and soon passed into obscurity. Not so with those who, by regular succession, have attained the posts of honor; you see them in your Tabernacle to-night, old, well tried veterans, presenting an impenetrable bulwark to all innovations.”

Is not this the experience of others besides Comp. Lambert? Is it not often the case that the hardest worker is put aside for the advancement of these Masonic meteors?

Of the General Grand Chapter, he says:

"I consider it my duty to present for your information the following extract from the truly eloquent address of the Most Excellent General Grand High Priest, E. H. English, delivered at the triennial Convocation, held at Buffalo last August; and also the resolution of Companion Albert Pike, which was adopted. Most Excellent Comp. English says: 'And what shall we say of Pennsylvania, the old *Keystone*, and of Virginia and her off-shoot, West Virginia, the child of a revolution, and the nursling of a storm?'

" 'These were never members of the General Grand Chapter; but there are vacant seats of honor in our beautiful Temple for them, and we have a standing invitation for them to enter, and when they come, we will bless them, and set bread and wine before them as Melchizedek, King of Salem, did to Abraham, the servant of the Most High God, possessor of heaven and earth.'

"*Resolved*, That the General Grand High Priest be requested to address a communication to the Most Excellent Grand Chapters of Virginia and West Virginia, fraternally and cordially inviting them, as their mode of work is substantially the same as that of their Sister Grand Chapters, to enroll themselves as constituents of the General Grand Chapter; and to the Most Excellent Grand Chapters of Rhode Island and Texas, specially inviting them to be represented at our next triennial Convocation.

"The Grand Chapter of Virginia entertains the most profound respect and regard for each and every Grand Chapter composing this illustrious body. It has not been prejudice which has prevented her from becoming a constituent member thereof, but from a firm conviction, formed years ago, that no benefit could accrue to her by such an union. Time has not changed those calm and deliberate views. While she is the supreme head, she feels that her subordinates can look up to her with more respect and veneration. To use the language of one of our oldest and most venerated Past Grand High Priests; 'She now occupies her true position, and is as she should be, *the equal of all, and the subordinate to none.*'

"We fully appreciate the kindly feelings of the General

Grand High Priest, coming, as we believe, from an honest and sincere heart, and so happily expressed that we may compare them to ‘apples of gold in pictures of silver;’ and the resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter shows the regard and respect entertained for us by that Grand Body in an unmistakable manner; and we can only add, that when we do enter your beautiful Temple, we shall claim the privilege of being supported on the one side by the good old *Keystone*, Pennsylvania (who is always right), and on the other by our foster daughter, West Virginia, ‘the nursling of a storm,’ and side by side be permitted to occupy those seats which you have for so long a time held in reserve for us.”

The following proposition was offered and action postponed for one year :

“WHEREAS, The degree of Past Master is not, in any proper sense, a degree belonging to the Royal Arch Chapter, but belongs exclusively and by right to the symbolic Lodge; and

“WHEREAS, For carrying out the theory and maintaining the true character of Royal Arch Masonry, the symbolic Lodge has granted to the Royal Arch authority over that degree to an extent necessary for her own complete existence.

“And thereby said degree of Past Master is truly an intermediate degree between Lodge and Chapter—belonging by permission in one case and authority in the other to the two bodies:

“*Resolved*, That the Methodical Digest, section 7, part 9, page 268, be so amended as to read, ‘to make Past Masters, Mark Masters,’ &c., and thus requiring the Past Master’s degree to be conferred before the Mark—placing this degree where it belongs—an intermediate degree to be taken as the last step leading to the door of the Chapter.

“*Resolved*, That the same change be made in section 21, part 2, page 280, second line from bottom, so as to read, “Past Master, Mark Master,” &c., and similar changes be made wherever necessary in the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand and Subordinate Chapters to make them conform to the above proposed amendments.”

Comp. Wm. B. Isaacs reports on Correspondence. Thirty-seven Grand Chapters are reviewed. Pennsylvania for 1876, included. The report contains only such decisions of the

Grand High Priests of the several Grand Chapters as have been approved.

He refers to a subject that has struck us forcibly many times in reading the reports of Correspondents, and that is the pay of the Reporters. We do not think we could use words that would express our feelings better than the following of Comp. Isaacs, leaving out his joke which he is welcome to as his exclusive property:

“In our perusal of these proceedings we find a ‘*water spout*’ has crept in to the damage of the finances of the several bodies who drink thereof, but of material aid in *quenching* the heavy *thirst* of the individual recipients. We refer to the practice of paying for reports on Foreign Correspondence. True it is, as stated by one whose authority on such subjects cannot and ought not to be questioned, ‘The laborer is worthy of his hire,’ and in a ‘*unanimous majority*’ of instances the laborers in this branch of our vineyard do not get their worth, and the appropriations may be regarded as complimentary only.

“In this jurisdiction the labor ever has been, and we hope ever will be, a labor of love, therefore our comment on this division of our subject cannot be looked upon as ‘*fishing*’ for a similar recognition. But in reading some of these reports we are often reminded of an anecdote we heard in our boyhood, as occurring in Kentucky or New York. We have forgotten which. It is immaterial. Some young fellows were skylarking through the country, and meeting a negro they saluted him: ‘Good morning, old man, how d’ye do?’ ‘Right well, gemmen; how is you?’ ‘You live in this neighborhood, old man?’ ‘Dat I does!’ ‘Work on a farm?’ ‘No, gemmens, I preaches.’ ‘Ah! I suppose you get good pay?’ ‘Well, yes, they gives me ten dollars a year.’ ‘Why, old man, that’s d—n poor pay.’ ‘Yes, gemmen, but it is d—n poor preach.’ There, we have perpetrated our joke, and are so lost in the maze of our temerity as to cause us to forget its intended application. Certainly it don’t apply to the reports on Foreign Correspondence in either of the jurisdictions, wherein it is said to have occurred, except in so far as it is poor pay for such ‘preaching’ as they give. We suppose, however, their respective chairmen have as great a love for their annual labor as we profess to have for ours, and therefore we have no right to enter complaint.”

Thirty-eight Chapters; membership, 1601; loss of 37.

Alfred S. Lee, Richmond, Grand High Priest.

William B. Isaacs, Richmond, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS—1878.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Texas was held in the City of Houston, December 13th, 1877, Comp. W. F. Swain, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Eighty-five Chapters represented.

The following decisions which were announced show that the true Masonic spirit prevails in Texas:

“When a Companion has been suspended by his Lodge, what action should be taken in regard to it by his Chapter?”

“*Answer.*—The High Priest, having obtained satisfactory evidence of the fact, should cause it to become a matter of record, and the Chapter henceforth refuses him Masonic recognition until reinstated by the Lodge.

“Should a Royal Arch Mason from Scotland, who has not received the Past Master’s Degree, apply for admission to a Chapter in this State, what is the proper course to pursue?”

“*Answer.*—Having obtained satisfactory evidence that the Companion is a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, having obtained the Degrees in accordance with the laws and usages which obtain in Scotland, proceed to confer upon him gratuitously such of the appendant Degrees as he has not received, to the end that he may be healed and become a Royal Arch Mason among us; until this is done, he cannot visit a Chapter in this jurisdiction.

“A Brother elected for the Chapter Degrees receives the Mark, when he is suspended by his Lodge. After three years he is reinstated. Can the Chapter confer the remaining Degrees upon him without a new ballot?”

“*Answer.*—A new ballot should be taken. By a resolution of this Grand Chapter, when a candidate fails to come forward and receive the Degrees within twelve months after he has been elected, a new ballot must be spread before he proceeds. Now, by parity of reasoning, if it is deemed necessary to re-ballot for a Brother in good standing, after one year’s delay, how much more necessary to re-ballot for a candidate who has been suspended for three years.”

The Brother when he was suspended lost his membership, and with it all claims to the remaining Degrees; when reinstated by Lodge, he should apply for membership and the remaining Degrees. After approval only he could receive the Degrees.

The following is a question about which there are many different opinions:

“The question has many times been asked: ‘When the Charter of a Chapter has been arrested, what is the *status* of those members in good standing at the time of arrest?’

“*Answer.*—They occupy the position of dimitted or non-affiliated Royal Arch Masons, and are entitled to a certificate of their standing at the time of said arrest, upon application to the Grand Secretary. But how is the Grand Secretary to do this without some data upon which to base a certificate? This is a matter of such deep concern to those who are thus left without a dimit, or any other showing of their standing, it has occurred to me that it would be well to have a regulation requiring the Secretaries of demised Chapters to send up, with the Charter and records, a certified list of all members in good standing at the time of the arrest. This would enable the Grand Secretary to furnish a certificate of former membership to any one applying, and would suffice in the place of a regular dimit.”

A Charter or Warrant arrested merely non-affiliates its members. A Charter suspended, its members are suspended.

“A petition for Degrees is received, read and referred to a committee, who in due time report unfavorably. Is it necessary to order the ballot spread under these circumstances?

“*Answer.*—The petition must go to a ballot, whatever be the report of the committee. This is the only way to elect or reject a candidate.”

The foregoing is the custom of other Grand Chapters, but is not the law in Pennsylvania. An unfavorable report is equivalent to a rejection with us.

The Grand Chapters of Nevada and Quebec, and Grand Mark Lodge of England were recognized.

The Grand Visitor reports that he spent 130 days in traveling and lecturing Chapters, received \$250 paid by the Chapters; his expenses were \$38.25, nett receipts \$211.75,

which was paid to Grand Chapter. Subsequently the Grand Chapter paid him \$138.25 for his services, and the laborer was worthy of his hire.

They have Committees who examine the returns, etc., of the Subordinate Chapters, and any Chapter found to have failed to hold meetings for three months, had its Warrant forfeited.

All the revenues of the Grand Chapter, after paying the necessary expenses, were devoted towards paying off the indebtedness of the Masonic Temple.

Comp. Robert M. Elgin submits the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Bodies, Pennsylvania, for 1877, included.

Under the head of Pennsylvania is the following:

“The principal business seems to be transacted at the Quarterly Convocations—Communications they call them. The Grand High Priest delivers his Address, Correspondence Committee reports, the officers are installed and standing committees appointed at the Annual—though other business may be and is transacted. The business being divided up by the several meetings but little is transacted at either. Nor is there as much before all of them as we usually find in so large and prosperous a jurisdiction. This may be partly owing to their customs and regulations. The actions of the Grand High Priest are not subject to reversal, and his Address is not referred to a committee to be dissected, criticised or approved. They seem satisfied with a Constitution under which they have prospered for years, and their time is not taken up with proposals to *change* (sometimes erroneously called propositions to *amend*), and they seem to think Masonry as we received it from our forefathers good enough, and do not try experiments to see how it would grow with younger scions from modern societies engrafted upon it.”

One hundred Chapters; membership, 3,946; loss of 176.

William Bramlette, Bonham, Grand High Priest.

Robert Brewster, Houston, Grand Secretary.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER—1877.

The Twenty-third Triennial Convocation of this Grand Body was held in Buffalo, New York, on Tuesday, August 21st, 1877.

Most Excellent Comp. Elbert H. English, of Arkansas, General Grand High Priest, presiding.

Representatives present from thirty-two Grand Chapters.

It is well known that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has no connection whatever with the so-called General Grand Chapter of the United States. Its claim to that title is without foundation, as there are several States in the American Union, over which it does not presume to claim jurisdiction. We refer to our own State, and Virginia, and West Virginia. There are also the States of Texas and Rhode Island, over which it once had control, and who now question its authority, but according to its own laws it cannot compel obedience.

We recognize the General Grand Chapter as the peer and equal of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, the same as we recognize the several State Grand Chapters as our peers.

The Grand High Priest of New York welcomed the General Grand Chapter, which was responded to by the Deputy Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter.

The deaths of twenty-four members were announced.

The following were among the decisions announced:

“FACTS STATED.—‘A Royal Arch Mason, now residing in Pennsylvania, who is a member of a Chapter at Naas, Ireland, desires to visit Siloam Chapter, at Camden, in this State. He has never received the Most Excellent Master’s Degree, which is not conferred in the European Chapters:

“‘Would it be allowable to confer the Most Excellent Master’s Degree upon, or communicate it to him, in order to enable him to visit, as done in our Commanderies with the Red Cross Order, when Canadian Templars desire to visit?’

“Adding: ‘He also wishes to join Siloam Chapter; to do which, it is supposed he must obtain his dimit from the Irish Chapter:

“‘1. Can he be admitted to Siloam Chapter?

“ ‘2. Can the missing degree be conferred any where in the United States, while he is a member of the Chapter at Naas, or will he have to dimit?’

“ ‘3. All obstacles to his receiving the Degree being removed, can he receive it in New Jersey, while a resident in Pennsylvania?’

“ ‘4. Can he not select his Masonic residence?’

“ ANSWER.—(*Feb. 16th, 1875.*) 1. He cannot be permitted to visit Siloam Chapter until he receives the Most Excellent Master’s Degree. It is one of the regular Degrees in the American System of Chapter Masonry. In opening and closing a Chapter, part of the secret work of the Degree is practiced, which one not in possession of the Degree, though a Royal Arch Mason, could not join in, and would not be permitted to witness.

“ 2. By SECTION 5, ART. 3, Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, U. S., when any worthy Royal Arch Mason, from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who has not received the Degrees of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master, shall present himself to any Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, such Chapter is authorized to confer the Degrees upon him, to the end that he may be healed.

“ A similar provision seems to have been embodied in the report of a committee of the General Grand Chapter as early as 1824. *Compendium*, p. 135.

“ It seems the Companion in question is only wanting the Most Excellent Master’s Degree. The fact that he is not dimitted from the Irish Chapter, is no obstacle to his receiving the degree in Siloam, or any other American Chapter, because, in the Irish Capitular System the Degree is unknown, and it will be no invasion of their jurisdiction to confer upon one of their Companions a Degree not belonging to their system.

“ 3. The fact that he resides in Pennsylvania, can be no valid objection to his being healed by a Chapter in New Jersey, which he wishes to visit; for the conferring upon him the wanting Degree is but a healing process.

“ If he were not a Chapter Mason at all, and desired to receive the Chapter Degrees in New Jersey, while a resident of Pennsylvania, they could not be conferred without a concession of jurisdiction. But he is a Royal Arch Mason under a foreign system older than ours, and a member of an Irish Chapter, and wishing to visit a New Jersey Chapter,

or any American Chapter, is the door to be closed upon him because he has not a lower Degree peculiar to the American rite, and unknown in the jurisdiction from which he hails? Surely not; but he may be healed and admitted. The conferring upon him the Most Excellent Master's Degree does not affiliate him with the Chapter, or make him a member of the appendant Lodge, but merely prepares him to enter the Chapter as a visitor. Why should Pennsylvania object?

"4. If you mean by the fourth question to inquire whether, after obtaining a dimit from the Chapter at Naas, he can affiliate with Siloam Chapter, of New Jersey, while a resident of Pennsylvania, I am not sure if that is not the subject of local regulation. Possibly, on general principles, a Mason may select his Masonic residence; and cases sometimes occur where his affiliation without the jurisdiction of his place of residence is very proper as a matter of convenience. For example, where there is a Chapter of a neighboring jurisdiction, nearer or more convenient of access than any Chapter within the jurisdiction of his residence.

"I should not favor, however, the policy of permitting a Companion residing in one State, convenient to a Chapter, to affiliate with a Chapter of another State."

To which we say Pennsylvania does *not* object. We recognize the right of any Royal Arch Mason to take his membership wherever he pleases, but believe that he should be a contributing member of the Masonic body nearest his place of residence. When it comes to a Brother petitioning for the Degrees of the Chapter residing within our jurisdiction, we maintain a positive control of the candidate; for here he is best known and here he should belong. The subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction cannot grant permission and waive jurisdiction, as by our Constitution, the Grand High Priest can alone grant the permission for receiving the Degrees outside of this jurisdiction. He has, for proper reasons, granted such permission, and will no doubt do so again.

On the maimed candidate question, he decided:

"1. Can a Brother Master Mason be exalted in the Royal Arch Chapter, who has lost the index finger of his right hand at the second joint—or rather part of the finger?

“2. Can the remaining Degrees be conferred on a Brother Mark Master Mason, who, since receiving that Degree, has been afflicted with white swelling, which has left the right knee joint without motion, *i. e.*, perfectly stiff, therefore preventing him from kneeling on both knees, although he can kneel upon the left knee?”

“ANSWER (Oct. 15th, 1875). The question of maimed candidates was several times before the General Grand Chapter, ably discussed, and finally the law expressed and settled as follows: ‘That it is incompetent for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the *respective* Degrees of Masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from *conforming literally* to all the requirements of those Degrees’ (Compendium p. 271, Proceedings, 1853).

“This was a softening of the rigid old rule, which required the candidate for the symbolic Degrees to be perfect in body, *without maim*, &c.

“1. My judgment is, that your first question should be answered in the affirmative. There is no *requirement* in any of the Chapter Degrees with which a man cannot *literally conform*, who has lost the index finger of the right hand at the second joint.

“2. The second question, I think, must be answered in the negative. A Brother whose right knee is without motion, perfectly stiff, is unable literally to conform to requirements in the work of the Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Degrees. In what particulars he would be at fault, I am not at liberty to suggest in this mode of communication, but I think they will readily occur to you, if you work about as I do.

In Pennsylvania the candidate must be able to prove himself able to do the work of the Degrees.

“In answer to a letter from M. E. E. F. Warren, Grand High Priest of Nebraska: ‘A blind Master Mason, though very worthy in all other respects, cannot receive the Chapter Degrees’” (March 11th, 1877).

The High Priest of a Chapter in the Hawaiian Islands submitted the following question as to rank of Royal Arch Chapters at funerals.

“‘A member of the Fraternity died here a short time ago, who had taken all the degrees of the York Rite, and a number of the degrees of the Scottish Rite. The latter body

elected to bury him by their funeral rites, and invited the Chapter as a body to attend. The day before the funeral, they withdrew, and the friends of the deceased then invited his Lodge to conduct the funeral services which they did.

“A few members of the Chapter appeared, and the W. M. of the Blue Lodge requested that they take their position ahead of the Master Masons, which they did, rather than cavil in the streets about any supposed right to any *particular place*. The Chapter was not opened or closed; they simply met and donned their regalia.

“As we have no wish to quarrel with the Lodge, or they with us, most of the Chapter members belonging to the Lodge, I submit to you the following questions:

“Has this Chapter any right to appear at a funeral, conducted by a Lodge of Master Masons, or in fact has it any right to appear in public at all in any ceremony conducted by a Lodge of Master Masons?

“2. If the Chapter has such right, what is its position in the order of procession?

“3. The Chapter holding a charter from the General Grand Chapter, and the Lodge holding one from the Grand Lodge of California, should a conflict arise, and the Lodge is sustained by the Grand Lodge, what then would be the position of the Chapter?”

“ANSWER.—1. Where a funeral is conducted by a Lodge, it is usual and better for Masons of all grades to join in, and be clothed as Master Masons, the funeral dress being a suit of black, with white aprons, gloves, &c. It is customary, however, as laid down in the old Monitors, in forming the procession, to place the different orders or grades in accordance with rank—1st, Master Masons, 2d, Royal Arch Masons, 3d, Select Masters, and 4th, Knights Templar, the W. M. taking the rear. Where a Royal Arch Mason is buried by a Blue Lodge, if his Chapter wishes to turn out and attend his funeral in a body as a mark of respect for him, I can see no objection to their doing so.

“2. But when they do turn out in a body, the Lodge conducting the services would be the ranking body, and place them in front in forming the procession.

“It is probable that the Worshipful Master of the Lodge which conducted the funeral ceremonies in the case referred to by you, regarded the Royal Arch Masons as attending in a body, as such, and hence placed them in front.

“3. It is hardly probable that the M. W. Grand Lodge of California, and the M. E. General Grand Chapter (from which you hold your charter), will seriously disagree about a question of rank at a Masonic funeral; but should such disagreement unhappily arise, as they are both sovereign, and neither one can overrule the judgment of the other, they would no doubt submit the question to the judgment of learned Masonic jurists, or of one or more other Masonic sovereigns, to be mutually selected, and abide the decision. They would certainly not go to war about the matter, as the profane do about their disagreements.

“At best the question of precedence in a Masonic procession, is of no great moment, because in the movement of the procession we illustrate the beautiful lesson of the Mark degree, that “the first shall be last, and the last first.” Moreover, in moving to the final resting-place of the dead, where all ranks are leveled, we need have but little care whether we occupy a place in the front or rear of the procession, for at the termination of the march, we all reach the same humiliating position.”

There can only be one funeral ceremony, and that is that of a Blue Lodge. All Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar who attend must do so as Master Masons. The depositing of the apron and evergreen by the Worshipful Master is the greatest honor (after the religious services) that can be paid the memory of a deceased Brother.

The following appeal was made for Pennsylvania to join the General Grand Chapter.

“And what shall we say of Pennsylvania, the old *Keystone*, and of Virginia and her off-shoot, West Virginia, the child of a revolution, and the ‘nursling of a storm?’ These were never members of the General Grand Chapter, but there are vacant seats of honor in our beautiful Temple for them, and we have a standing invitation for them to enter; and when they come we will bless them, and set bread and wine before them, as Melchizedek, King of Salem, did to Abraham, the servant of the Most High God, possessor of heaven and earth.”

The Grand Mark Lodge of England was recognized.

The following Resolution was offered and referred, and action postponed:

“Resolved, That the degrees of Mark Master and Past Master, as now conferred in the Chapters, be transposed, and that the Past Master’s Degree be the first, and the Mark Degree be the second—thereby putting all Past Masters, virtual and actual, on an equality in their relation to the Blue Lodge and Chapter degrees.”

The following was adopted :

“For all purposes, except opening and closing a Chapter and conferring degrees, nine Members of a Chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum.

“Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to report to the General Grand High Priest a Royal Arch Cypher for the use of this jurisdiction.

“Resolved, That there must be present nine Royal Arch Masons to open any of the bodies under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter; but that five may work as a Lodge of Mark Masters, seven as a Lodge of Past Masters, and seven as a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters.”

The following was not adopted :

“Resolved, That the extent of the physical disability, which shall constitute a disqualification from receiving the Degrees of the Chapter, be left to the determination of the Grand Chapters.”

The immense powers vested in the General Grand Chapter is found in its Constitution, Art. I, Sec. 2.

“It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters; nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specially granted; nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapters; nor shall entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter, preferred by any Subordinate Chapter or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere.”

John Frizzell, Nashville, Tennessee, General Grand High Priest.

Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, N. Y., General Grand Secretary.

ALABAMA—1877.

The Fifty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Alabama was held in Montgomery, December 4th, A. D. 1877, Comp. James E. Cobb, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Twenty-nine Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest had attended the Triennial of the General Grand Chapter, and was pleased.

He asks the Grand Chapter to consider if they could afford to continue the custom of presenting each retiring Grand High Priest with a jewel or other evidence of regard.

He reported the death of Past Deputy Grand High Priest J. McCaleb Wiley.

The committee to whom was referred to prepare an obituary on the death of Comp. Wiley, give this interesting sketch of the life of the Companion:

“He began active life as a physician, and located in Dallas county. Thence he emigrated to New Orleans, where, in attending to his patients, he contracted yellow fever, from which he barely escaped with his life. When convalescent he went to Mexico in quest of health. He resided awhile at various points on the Pacific Coast, and then went back to the Gulf at Tuspan, where he spent some time in the practice of his profession. While there he joined the regular army, and became aid-de-camp to Santa Anna, then Mexican Dictator. Later he was promoted to the rank of Colonel.

“This period of his life was full of adventure. He was repeatedly robbed and was thrice wounded in battle.

“At this point your committee cannot refrain from recording an episode in the life of Comp. Wiley, which attests his ardent and unfaltering patriotism, and at the same time furnishes a beautiful and practical demonstration of the teachings of our Order.

“In 1836, during the Texas revolution, on one occasion while on dress parade, Col. Wiley was ordered by Gen. Santa Anna to march his regiment to Fort Alamo, Texas. Instead of obeying the order, he deliberately removed the epaulettes from his shoulders and said: ‘I refuse to fight my countrymen.’ For this act of open insubordination he was immediately ordered under arrest, tried by court martial, and sentenced to be shot. But being a prominent Freemason, the influence of his brethren secured for him a temporary reprieve. He was transferred from prison to prison, until the battle of San Jacinto was fought on 21st April, 1836, when he was released and restored to his command. But he soon retired from the service, and returned to the United States, locating in Butler county, and began the practice of the law.”

Comp. P. J. Pillans again presents the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1876, among the number.

Under the head of Iowa and the spurious Royal Arch Masons, Comp. Pillans remarks:

“He announces to his Grand Chapter that ‘quite recently a Chapter of colored Royal Arch Masons has been organized within this Grand Jurisdiction,’ and instead of denouncing this invasion of his jurisdiction, and declaring any such body, not authorized by the Grand Chapter of Iowa, to be clandestine, and thus maintaining and asserting the dignity of his Grand Chapter, he drivels about its being ‘almost criminal to delay much longer the recognition,’ &c., and urges though ‘trusting that it will speedily lead to such conclusions and the adoption of such a line of action as shall render justice to those who are now the subjects of an unjust and indefensible rule.’

“Now suppose the M. Ex. had announced that a Chapter of white Royal Arch Masons had been formed and opened in Iowa by warrant from any other than the Grand Chapter of Iowa, would there have been any such recommendations? Why, if a Chapter in an adjoining jurisdiction accidentally makes one a Royal Arch Mason who lives within the jurisdiction of Iowa, what a hubbub immediately ensues!—what correspondence and demand for apology! &c. And yet the M. Ex. G. H. Priest announces that a Chapter exists without proper authority, consequently not merely irregular, but clandestine, and he, forsooth, recommends recognition and companionship!

“The committee on G. H. Priest’s address, in noticing this portion, are so exuberant in the expression of philanthropic sentiment that they think it were better to ‘tear down the pillars of strength and establishment, and blot out the celestial and terrestrial bodies,’ &c., than not to greet these negroes who *assert* that they are Royal Arch Masons and that they have a Chapter.

“The M. Ex. very properly calls this the ‘coming question,’ but it will only be so, if Masons reject all the principles governing like cases, and are determined to let prejudice rule. Is the negro better than the white? Shall the latter be required to show his credentials when he makes application, while the former is allowed, nay invited, to enter upon his own statement merely?

“We have heretofore been silent on this subject, because we thought that the sober second thought, that which comes of reflection, would free us of any such necessity, but the closing year of the centennial existence of this republic seems to have inspired many brethren with new ardor, yea greater admiration for this people. Let them, Companions, become R. A. Masons in the regular way, as we require those of all other colors, and there will be no necessity for violating any of the long settled principles of Masonry, nor of enunciating any such monstrous Masonic heresy as that there can, because of a ‘new day,’ be a ‘new duty.’”

Which we endorse word for word, and have already so expressed in our report of 1876.

Commenting on Comp. Pilsbury’s (of Iowa) report on Foreign Correspondence, where he says:

“ ‘ We find ourselves wholly unable to locate it and conclude it is colored and clandestine ’—a righteous conclusion. But then, why place the proceedings of a clandestine, nay spurious body, in such good company, sandwiching it between Nova Scotia and Pennsylvania? Is this hereafter to be the lot, the *happy* lot of every clandestine and impudent fellow?”

He quotes in full the report on Royal Arch Masonry in Ireland, prepared for the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania by our friend and Comp. James H. Neilson, of Dublin.

We hope in our next report to have interesting communications from Comps. Hugnan and Whytehead, of England; Neilson, of Ireland, and Brown, of Scotland.

Thirty-seven Chapters; membership, 1059; a loss of 33.

James E. Cobb, Tuskegee, Grand High Priest.

Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS—1877.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas was held in Little Rock, October 4th, 1877. Forty-three Chapters were represented. The Deputy Grand High Priest, John W. Rison, presiding in the absence of the Grand High Priest, whose duties as a physician prevented his being present. He, however, sent his annual ad-

dress, which was read by the Deputy. He reports a brighter promise for the future of Royal Arch Masonry, since he was present at the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

He reports the destruction by fire of the Grand Secretary's office and its entire contents of value, also the archives of the past.

Of the General Grand Chapter, he says, that the reception was princely and that language failed to convey a just idea of the grandeur of the hospitality, and that there was no ostentation.

He also says, that Pennsylvania and Virginia have always stood aloof from this bond of union, and there are at present no reasonable grounds for a hope that they will forsake their isolation.

That nothing definite as to uniformity of work was accomplished, and for all practical purposes, all efforts for securing entire uniformity will be futile.

An appeal from the Committee on Education was made for St. John's College, a noble Masonic institution for the education and care of the sons of Masons, when three hundred dollars were appropriated for such purposes as the Grand Lodge may suggest in connection with the College.

A Committee was appointed to act with a similar Committee from the Grand Council to take action towards merging the two Rites.

Comp. John R. Eakin presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. In his introduction he says:

"Masonic duties never conflict with duties to the family, and to the public. They have not felt at liberty to give that careful and patient attention to the mass of Masonic proceedings which would be necessary to a full report on the conventional model. They would not have done so, however, if they could. It is too burdensome a tax to exact of the ordinary working Companion in this work-day world, whose bread, as that of most of them does, depends upon his attention to business during all the six days of the week.

"Certainly, it must be confessed, the voluminous reports

on Foreign Correspondence constitute by far the most interesting, if not the most useful portions of the printed proceedings of the several Grand Chapters. But they are the work of amateurs who have leisure, or of trained experts who make it a business and devote to them an amount of time and labor, which the ordinary Mason, engaged in the support of his family, cannot bestow. It has been found expedient in some of the Grand Chapters, to grant the authors pecuniary compensation. This is just and politic, for their work is useful. It adds annually to the permanent mass of Masonic literature. It cultivates and sustains an interest in the craft. These laborers, treading out the grain, labor in love; but are none the less worthy of their hire.

Yet, Grand Chapters cannot always, nor most generally find Companions, standing ready, annually, for the work. There is danger that those Companions who cannot perform the work so well or so fully as they see it done by others, will despair and make no effort. This effect is very apparent. Many of the Proceedings furnish us with no reports at all from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. This is not well. It tends to isolation and illiberality. All Masons through their Grand Bodies, should keep themselves in contact and fraternal sympathy with Masons all over the world, 'receiving and giving odor.' This is the office of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence, and they should never fail entirely, save for potent reasons. Through them the craft should each year be furnished with some outlook upon the spirit and the work of kindred bodies, that they may see what can be added to their own temples for use or ornament."

He then presents a review on the "State of the Order," Masonic History and Literature, St. John's College, and the Cryptic Degrees. Of the latter he says:

"The Council degrees lie neglected and almost forgotten in Councils which seldom meet, and the Grand Council itself drags on with scarcely a show of vitality. Before it 'dies and makes no sign' it ought to be taken into the bosom of the Chapter, where its beautiful and impressive degrees would impart new interest and fresh charms to Capitular Masonry. The attendance upon the subordinate Chapters would be largely increased, and that, reacting upon the Blue Lodges would attract crowds of applicants, seeking admission. After all, increase of membership amongst

Chapters deeply in earnest, and fond of Masonry, is the truest test of prosperity. The growth may be sometimes unhealthy, but that may be controlled. Where there is no growth, it is vain to seek consolation in any supposed progress of purification. We may rather fear mortification and decay."

Comp. Eakin, do you seriously think it right and proper for your Grand Chapter to legislate on a subject of which they have no knowledge? Are not the Council degrees recognized as higher degrees, and would it not be as well to take hold of the Order of the Red Cross. Without a doubt the Knights Templar who advocate changes would willingly grant control of the Red Cross to the Chapters, it would no doubt, impart new interest and fresh charms to Capitular Masonry. It seems to us that the members of the subordinate Councils and Chapters should have something to say on this subject; the former, if they consent to kill their Councils, the latter, if they want to add more degrees to their system. The representatives of the subordinate bodies in the Grand Chapter and Grand Council are exceeding their powers, and in no constitution can they find any authority to add to or take from the degrees that have been committed to their charge.

In regard to the Past Master's degree, Comp. Eakin remarks:

"Really it belongs to the jurisdiction of the Blue Lodges, and should be for the practical use of actual Past Masters. Its meaning is not easily understood, where it stands in the Chapter. It seems apropos of nothing before it or that comes after. Where seriously conferred it has but little interest—generally it is much abused and becomes a nuisance to the earnest Companion seeking in all ceremonies the high symbolism of the Craft. If it should be that the two Council degrees are added to the Chapter, it may be worth consideration whether the Past Master's may not be well eliminated, and left where it properly belongs; and, where, being earnest and practical, and having its due Masonic effect, it is sure to be more decently treated than it often is in our Chapters, where it means nothing, and confers no privileges amongst Masons. It is part of a play, which, if

the drama be lengthened by more interesting acts, may well be cut out."

Arkansas declares the outrageous doctrine that the suspension of a Mason by his Lodge without charges or trial, by mere operation of By-Laws, is not suspension from Masonry and does not make a suspended Mason at all in the true sense of a Mason's obligation. In other words, *suspension is not suspension*.

Sixty-four Chapters ; 1453 members ; 10 decrease.

Jonathan W. Jordan, Hot Springs, Grand High Priest.

Luke E. Barber, Little Rock, Grand Secretary.

Comp. J. W. Jordan, Grand High Priest of Arkansas, died September, 1878.

Pennsylvania condoles with Arkansas in her loss.

CALIFORNIA—1878.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of California was held in San Francisco, April 9th, 1878.

Comp. Henry Hay Knapp, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Twenty-three subordinate Chapters represented.

A committee to whom was referred the question of merging the Council Degrees with the Chapter presented a report, from which we extract :

"Some four or five of the jurisdictions have assumed the power to accomplish the purpose of our memorial, and have transferred the degrees of Royal and Select Master to the Royal Arch Chapters and dissolved their Council organizations. Is this action desirable with us? Is it prudent? Your committee think not. We desire to accomplish this transfer, believing it to be for the best interests of, and the future prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry everywhere, but especially in California; but we desire to perfect the change in accordance with law, usage, and regulations—it involves a change of systems that should not be made until after the fullest anticipation of possible objections. We think wonderful progress has already been made, and are firm in the belief that, as the subject will undoubtedly be presented at the

next triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter in 1880, it cannot fail of success.

“In Masonic matters, especially those involving organic changes, experience has taught us it is always best to ‘make haste slowly.’ We are a conservative organization, and let us retain that characteristic; for these and other reasons your committee do present the detailed plan for the carrying into effect the ‘proposed transfer’ referred to in the last resolution of our memorial, but respectfully recommend the continuance of this committee, with the suggestion that said committee or its successor be requested to present said memorial, in person, to the General Grand Chapter at its next session.”

We commend the following report, which was adopted, to those who are advocating that a suspension is *not* a suspension:

“That a Master Mason expelled by his Lodge has become for all Masonic consideration dead. And as a man cannot die in one locality and continue his existence in another on this terrestrial body, he is dead also in his Chapter, no matter whether he was returned as excluded or included.

“Restoration by the Grand Lodge restores him to his rights and privileges as a Master Mason, but not to membership in his Lodge. Can it restore him to membership in his Chapter? We think not; and that he can get back only in the way provided for the newly born—by petition for affiliation and ballot.”

Regalia and Jewels were ordered for the Grand Lecturer and Grand Organist.

Grand High Priest Knapp was requested to sit for his portrait for the Grand Chapter portrait gallery.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin, reviews the proceedings of forty Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania not of the number. Fifty-three Chapters; membership 2990; gain of 193.

John Mills, Browne Valley, Grand High Priest.

Thomas Hubbard Caswell, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

COLORADO—1877-1878.

The Third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Colorado was held in Denver, September 20th, 1877, M. E. Comp. Irving W. Stanton, Grand High Priest, presiding.

A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened in *due* form by the Deputy Grand High Priest.

After which the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Colorado was opened in *ample* form.

Why this dual opening?

Seven Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports that in the Chapter at Denver the Royal Arch Degree was conferred by M. E. Comp. Albert G. Mackey, and a system of work had been agreed upon for the jurisdiction, founded upon instruction given by Comp. Mackey.

The Grand High Priest attended the General Grand Chapter, and we give his report of how the Triennial struck him.

“As the presiding officer of this Grand Chapter I attended the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, held at Buffalo in August last. Too much cannot be said of the hospitality and courtesies extended by the Companions of Buffalo and of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York. The occasion was one of the most pleasant and enjoyable in which it has ever been my privilege to participate.

“I am compelled to reverse my opinion of the usefulness of the General Grand Chapter. Heretofore I have considered it a somewhat useless appendage, and of but little practical benefit. Hereafter I shall not so regard it. From henceforth I am an advocate of the General Grand Chapter, and for several reasons, but one in particular, which would suffice if there were no other; that is the opportunity afforded once in three years for the Representatives of the State Grand Chapters to meet each other in friendly intercourse, and, as Companions and Brothers in the true sense of the words, interchange friendly greetings and opinions. Coming from all portions of our common country, learning to know and appreciate each other, recognizing true merit, from whatever point of the compass it may come, the influence exerted by

the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America for 'peace and harmony' and 'good will toward men' cannot, in my opinion, be overestimated."

We shall wait with patience until the years pass by, and then see what Colorado has to say on the subject.

Comp. Byers verbally apologizes for not presenting a report on Correspondence, and offered to prepare a report. On motion, the Grand Chapter accepted the apology and dispensed with the report.

The Grand Chapter *adopted a Work, which they strangely declined to hear exemplified*, as the Work of the jurisdiction.

Seven Chapters; membership, 359; gain of 9.

1878.

The Fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Colorado, was held in Denver, September 19th, 1878.

Most Excellent Comp. Oren H. Henry, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Seven Chapters represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest feelingly refers to the fearful scourge of yellow fever that has afflicted our Brethren and Companions of the Sunny South, and appeals to the Companions of Colorado for help.

The Committee to whom was referred the status of a Companion suspended by his Blue Lodge, presented two reports:

The one was:

"Your committee beg leave to submit the following:

"*Be it Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter that Royal Arch Masons, to be in good standing in the subordinate Chapters subject to this Grand Chapter, must be and continue in good standing in their respective Lodges; that their status in their Lodges must govern and control their status in their Chapters, and the subordinate Chapters are hereby authorized to act accordingly."

The other was:

"While all will agree that expulsion or suspension in the Blue Lodge for a Masonic offense, affects the standing of Chapter members, I am of the opinion that the standing of a member in his Chapter, whose name is stricken from the

rolls of his Lodge for non-payment of dues, ought not to be affected thereby."

The *other* or the latter was adopted.

Is a suspended Mason under the tongue of good Masonic Report? Is he a fit associate for those who believe in maintaining the purity of Masonry? A most beautiful sight it would be to visit a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Colorado, upon the frontlet or crown of each member there should be emblazoned "Holiness to the Lord," and to know that there were Companions present who did not believe in paying their honest debts to the Lodge. It is a new Masonry to us. We do not believe it is possible that in the thousands of suspensions for non-payment of dues, or dropping from the rolls, which amounts to the same thing, every year, that there are twenty cases where the worthy Brother who is too poor to pay has been suspended. We shall, in time, recommend to the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania that visitors from jurisdictions where the right of a Blue Lodge to suspend is questioned in this manner, be required to declare that they do not stand suspended in their Blue Lodges for any cause whatsoever.

Comp. William N. Byers, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. He says "*Brevity and condensation have been studied more than the preparation of a voluminous report.* It would have been better if there had been a little *more brevity* in his review of Missouri. It is an insult to every regular Grand Chapter in this country to have a spurious organization reviewed under the same head with a Grand Chapter that has honored Comp. Byers with a commission, as in the case with the Grand Chapter of Missouri. He says, "Missouri also has another Grand Chapter, that of the First Independent African Grand Royal Arch Chapter." Verily Missouri is honored in her representative, since he seems to be in doubt of the legality of the Grand Chapter he represents.

Seven Chapters; membership of 392; a gain of 39.

Edward H. Collins, Denver, Grand High Priest.

Edward C. Parmalee, Georgetown, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT—1878.

The eightieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, was held in Hartford, May 7, 1878.

M. E. Comp. Henry W. Coye, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Thirty-three Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reported a number of deaths, among others Companion Gideon Welles. He confesses he knows little of Comp. Welles' Masonic history, but as Secretary of the Navy his record is familiar.

He reports having granted permission to two Chapters to "join teams" and complete their work before the summer vacation.

What "joining teams" means, we know not. Comp. Thomas Smith Webb never dreamed of such work when he received the Chapter Degrees in Harmony Chapter, No. 52, Philadelphia.

The Grand High Priest had stopped the work of a Chapter, because of the unsafe condition of the Hall for secret work.

Comp. John H. Barlow presents his first attempt at Foreign Correspondence. He presents a very interesting report on thirty-seven Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania not of the number.

Of the Cryptic Degrees, he says :

"The action of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of Mississippi, which contemplates the abolishing of Council organizations, and placing the Degrees of Royal and Select Master under the authority of the Chapter, to be conferred as an appendix to its Degrees, has received favorable action from thirteen jurisdictions, while six have taken action against it, and in sixteen jurisdictions no action has been taken.

"Were there no present Council organizations, it would, we think, present a far different question; but with our present organization of forty Grand Councils, their sudden dissolution would bring about a state of confusion and disorder that, we think, would prove injurious both to Capitular

and Cryptic Masonry. We believe that at present there is more uniformity in the working of the Council Degrees than in any other branch of Masonry, and can see no good reason for the change."

Thirty-six Chapters; membership 3846; a gain of 38.

Dwight Waugh, Stamford, Grand High Priest.

Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE—1878.

The Tenth Annual Convocation was held in Wilmington, on January 16th, 1878, and was opened by M. E. Paynter Frame, Deputy Grand High Priest.

Six Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest, Comp. J. F. Mynich, was prevented by sickness from being present, his Annual Address was accordingly read by the Deputy Grand High Priest.

He reports everything "advancing in harmonious working" in the several Chapters.

He reports that a Member of Washington and Lafayette Chapter had asked a Brother who had filled up a petition to St. John's Chapter, to destroy it and petition Washington and Lafayette Chapter, which he had done. And he further says that this custom is not confined to one Chapter in his jurisdiction.

Again he reports that one of the Chapters were accepting promissory notes for cash for conferring the Degrees. This he had very properly stopped.

Because the work was poorly rendered in one of the Chapters and the Companions declaring that they would not attend its meetings, unless summoned, he had granted a dispensation to suspend the labors of the Chapter from July to October.

Very accommodating, indeed. Better to suspend the work altogether.

The Grand High Priest attended the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, and is full of the constant flow of invi-

tations to banquets, excursions, suppers, drives, reviews, etc., and he is thankful that so much time was given to feasting, etc., and so little to legislation, and says that the major part of the legislation enacted was not to elevate Royal Arch Masonry, but to the detriment of the Craft and for the glorification of the General Grand Chapter. He closes his praises of the General Grand Chapter by saying: "There is but one possible good that can come out of this General Grand Chapter, and that is, so long as it exists, there is not the remotest possibility of the Masons of this country being cursed with a General Grand Lodge."

He recommends that no one should be eligible to election in the official chair of the Chapter, unless he is competent to do the work.

There is no report on Correspondence, except to recognize the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

Six Chapters; 320 Members; 12 increase.

A. G. Cox, Middletown, Grand High Priest.

J. P. Allmond, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1877.

The Semi-annual Convocation was held at Washington, June 13, 1877.

The following resolution was adopted:

"That this Grand Chapter will adhere to the rule not to appoint or receive any Companion as Representative unless he shall have attained the rank of High Priest, or is a member of his respective Grand Chapter."

In Pennsylvania no one can hold the appointment of Representative unless he is a member of either Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter instructed their Representative to vote in favor of the merging of the Council and Chapter Degrees.

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized.

A Chapter of Sorrow was held June 29, 1877, in memory of Past Grand High Priest, J. E. F. Holmead.

The Annual Convocation was held Dec. 12, 1877, at which M. E. Comp. I. L. Johnson, Grand High Priest, presided.

Eight Chapters represented.

An application was made by the Grand Chapter of Maryland, for the Original Record Book of a Royal Arch Encampment, held in the City of Washington, in the years 1795 to 1799, which was in the possession of the Chapter of the District of Columbia.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is furnished by Comp. Noble D. Lamer, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1876, of the number.

Eight Chapters; membership 1091; loss of 85.

Joseph S. McCoy, Washington, Grand High Priest.

Charles W. Hancock, 1443 Corcoran street, N. W., Washington, Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA—1878.

The Thirty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Florida was held in Jacksonville, January 8th, 1878.

M. E. Comp. John S. Driggs, Grand High Priest, presiding.
Six Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports renewed zeal in the Chapters of his jurisdiction. Three of the Chapters were revived.

The business done was of a local nature.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a report recognizing the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

Seven Chapters, with a membership of 192; a decrease of 29.

Enos Wasgate, Jacksonville, Grand High Priest.

DeWitt C. Dawkin, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA—1878.

The Fifty-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, was held in the city of Macon, April 24th, 1878. Comp. Luther J. Glenn, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding.

Thirty-five Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports that Royal Arch Masonry in his jurisdiction *has held its own* during the past year.

He very properly decided that a Master Mason made before the late war and who had lost a leg in battle being amputated below the knee could not receive the Chapter Degrees.

He was one of the first to put in an appearance and among the last to depart, at the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, and says it was pleasant, very pleasant to meet and clasp hands. He then gives a glowing account of the meeting, and closes with the following, and as he was an eye-witness, it will give the Companions of Pennsylvania some idea of the General Grand Chapter's working :

“ I went to Buffalo in seach of light, expecting to be profited much by instruction and information to be imparted by the savans of Royal Arch Masonry, especially in reference to the work and ‘means of recognition of the Order.’ But alas! I may say, and say truly, *I went, I saw I failed.* ’Twas ‘distance lent enchantment to the view.’

“ I know there be those who regard ‘uniformity in the work’ of the Order, as unimportant, because, say they, ‘it is only the shell of Masonry—while its principles and teachings constitute the kernel—the food which gives it sustenance, and imparts to it life and vigor.’ To this school I do not belong, and with these teachers I cannot agree.

“ If it be necessary to have a system of work—a form of ceremonies—then, in my judgment, that work, those ceremonies, in all their essential features, should be uniform—the same in Maine as in Georgia—on the shores of the Atlantic, as on the slopes of the Pacific.

“ By dint of perseverance, some of us succeeded in having a committee appointed to report on the Ritual, and to exemplify the work and ‘means of recognition.’ The evening on which that committee reported, and undertook to discharge the duty assigned it, will long be remembered by those present.

“ Babel in its prime was a model of order to the confusion of tongues, the discrepancies in genuflections that prevailed on that occasion.

“ Each State Jurisdiction had its own work, and as a mat-

ter of course, superior to any other; and each Representative his own 'means of recognition,' as taught by the fathers, and no two were agreed.

"At last one single glimmering ray of light (the figure is changed) pierced the gloom. It came from the great Masonic Luminary, whose effulgence lights up countries and continents.

"On motion of Companion Albert Pike, it was

"*Resolved*, That there must be present nine Royal Arch Masons, to open any of the bodies under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter; but that five may work as a Lodge of Mark Masters, seven as a Lodge of Past Masters, and seven as a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters.'

"This resolution was adopted in the hurry and excitement of the closing hour, and I give it for what it may be worth, remarking that it simply applies to Subordinate Chapters, working under a Charter from the General Grand Chapter, and not to State Grand Chapters.

"It is to me unpleasant, yea mortifying, when, on some evening after having conferred the Capitular Degrees, to have some visiting Brother or newly-affiliated Companion, or some Companion of my own Chapter, who has visited some other jurisdiction, to approach me, and in the presence of the Companions assembled, remark, 'Comp. Glenn, you differ in your work with Comp. Drummond on this point—with Comp. English on this point—with Comp. Frizzell on another point—and with Comp. Pike on still another point, and so on to the last of the dignitaries of the General Grand Chapter.

"And I presume it would be equally as annoying to either one of the above named Companions, to be approached, under like circumstances, and oracularly informed 'that he differed in his mode of work with Comp. Glenn, of Georgia, very high Masonic authority.'"

Comp. Samuel Lawrence presented an able report. He reviewed thirty-six Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania *not* of the number—which we regret very much.

Forty-three Chapters; 1484 members; 217 decrease.

William J. Johnson, Fort Gaines, Grand High Priest.

J. Emmett Blackshear, Macon, Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS—1877.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Illinois was held in Chicago, October 25th, 1877. Comp. Arthur R. H. Atkins, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Seventy-three Chapters represented.

The Charters of four Chapters had been arrested by order of the Grand High Priest.

York Chapter, No. 128, of Illinois, received the petition and exalted a Brother whom the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin claimed as her property. The matter not having been satisfactorily settled, the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin declared the Companion a *clandestine* Royal Arch Mason.

The matter was brought before the General Grand Chapter, which sided with Illinois.

To our mind, the Companion belonged to Wisconsin. We cannot understand how the Companion can be *clandestine*, when he was exalted in a regular Chapter duly recognized as lawful by the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin. The Companion may have been exalted without authority, but not *clandestinely*.

Among the decisions are the following:

“Can a High Priest, after his retirement from the chair, be tried by his Chapter for any official act of his when he was High Priest?”

“*Decision.*—No. He can only be tried by the Grand Chapter.

“Can an Honorary Member be legally elected to an office of a Chapter, of which he is such a Member?”

“*Decision.*—No. An Honorary Membership entitles him to a seat in the Chapter, but with no further rights.

“Can a Companion vote when in arrears for dues over one year, the By-Laws of his Chapter specifying such arrearage of dues as depriving him of that right?”

“*Decision.*—Yes. No Companion can be deprived of the right to vote until charges are preferred against him. Such a By-Law, being unconstitutional, is void.

“Can a ballot on a petition be withheld after it is received

by a Chapter, a Companion having objected to the ballot being taken?

“*Decision.*—No. The petition being in the possession of the Chapter, a ballot must be taken and the candidate *elected* before objections can be made and entertained by the High Priest.”

On the Cryptic Degrees he reasons thus :

“I shall now ask your earnest attention to a matter which I consider of vital interest to Royal Arch Masonry. Many who are present know the importance of the Cryptic Degrees, and that without them the Royal Arch Degree is shorn of much of its beauty; that, in fact, the Royal and Select Masters’ Degrees are the key to and explanation of the Royal Arch Degree. The Cryptic Degrees originally belonged to and were conferred in the Chapter, and up to 1829 the General Grand Chapter claimed jurisdiction over these Degrees. Finally, in 1853, the General Grand Chapter, by its action, surrendered its claim to the Grand Councils of the different States. Since that time these beautiful Degrees have lost ground, and are now in a languishing condition, except in those States that have them under the control of the Grand Chapters.

“The Grand Chapters of Mississippi and North Carolina have already consolidated with the Grand Councils of those States, and Texas is moving towards the same end. It has become a matter of life or death with Cryptic Masonry throughout the country, and now the Grand Council of Illinois asks this Grand Chapter to take charge of these beautiful Degrees, and confer them in our Chapters. M. E. Comp. H. W. Walter, Grand High Priest of Mississippi, informed me that Cryptic and Capitular Masonry in his State has the same membership. In this State, where there are over 11,000 Masons who have taken the Capitular Degrees, there are less than 3,000 who have taken the Cryptic. By taking charge of these Degrees, and conferring them upon all Royal Arch Masons, we only take back what was our own and belonged to Royal Arch Masonry up to 1829 (see Report of the General Grand Chapter of that year), and which was taken from Capitular Masonry, to increase the number of Grand Bodies, giving honors and titles to a favored few.”

The Grand Treasurer was authorized to borrow for one year the sum of \$1,500.

A resolution to permit the use of substitutes in the Royal Arch Degree, was offered and lost.

Comp. James H. Miles, Grand Secretary, presented the report on *Masonic* Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of forty-two Grand Bodies. Of Pennsylvania, for 1876, he speaks kindly, and quotes from the Address of Grand High Priest Wagner.

One hundred and sixty-six Chapters; membership, 10,690; a loss of 110.

James C. McMurtry, Henderson, Grand High Priest.

James H. Miles, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

INDIANA—1878.

Thirty-third Annual Convocation, Indianapolis, October 23-24, 1878.

Most Excellent Comp. Simeon S. Johnson, Grand High Priest, opened a *Chapter* of Royal Arch Masons, and after prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the *Grand Chapter* was declared duly opened. This is "peculiarly" Indiana.

We will say that our Grand High Priest and Officers opens the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania at once, and it is not required, as in the "peculiar" manner of doing things in Indiana, to open a Royal Arch Chapter first and set the Grand Chaplain praying to exorcise all the evil spirits before their Grand Chapter is purified enough for opening.

Seventy-eight Chapters represented.

From the decisions of the Grand High Priest, we quote:

"Question. 'Is it in accord with the principles of Masonry for the Chapter to sue a member in good standing, or is it not in harmony with such principles that such indebtedness, if protracted, be treated as a moral offence, and the moral force of the Order exhausted before any legal measure be resorted to?'

"Should the Secretary of the Chapter place for collection a note against a Brother in the hands of a proper officer for suit and judgment, and such officer is kind enough to give to such person unofficial notice, and on reception of such notice such member gets some six or eight members in good stand-

ing to join him in a written statement that such proceedings were not Masonic, and therefore should be drawn, and such statement be presented to such Secretary in kindness, should he be influenced thereby and withdraw the suit?

“ ‘ When such an appeal is presented to the High Priest and he requested to have proceedings withdrawn, or suspended until after the next stated meeting of the Chapter, has the said High Priest the authority to peremptorily have the matter stopped? If not, what redress has such member, or how to prevent cost and disgrace? ’ ”

“ I have copied these inquiries, in order that Companions may, if possible, find out what was asked. And as they called for no construction of the statue or written law, simply for my views upon the moral aspect of a certain case, I considered the Grand High Priest ‘ was entitled to his guess as well as any other person. ’ ”

“ ANSWER.— ‘ Would always exhaust moral suasion before suing any one, but know of no reason why “ a member in good standing ” should not pay his indebtedness as well as any one else, and know of no Masonic law treating “ protracted indebtedness ” as a “ moral offence to Masonry. ” ’ ”

“ ‘ Presumed the Secretary of a Chapter would not authorize suit against a Companion without instruction, or upon due reflection, and having done so, undoubtedly would not withdraw suit, except clearly convinced an error had been committed. ’ ”

“ ‘ In my opinion the High Priest would have no authority to stay proceedings (unless so ordered by the Chapter). The “ redress of the member, ” *if he has any at all*, is in his Chapter against any one who violates Masonic law. “ How to prevent cost and disgrace? ” By paying debt if able. If not able and owing (to the Chapter), by saying so to the Chapter and abiding her order. ’ ”

A good place to go to obtain Masonry on credit. Some of the Chapters in Indiana seem to be engaged in the banking business; they take notes from their members and then sue for non-payment; by decision of the Grand High Priest they cannot try the member, as there is no Masonic law treating “ protracted indebtedness ” as a “ moral offence to Masonry. ” More Indiana “ peculiarity. ”

The Grand Chapter finances are not in a satisfactory condition, \$500 owing by the estate of a deceased Companion,

\$5,000 on the note of another, and the Grand Lodge owing \$1,373.34. After counting all the possible receipts and deducting the expenditures, there will be a deficit of \$945. A call was made for \$1,000 of the amount due, by Grand Lodge. The total assets of the Grand Chapter amounts to \$7,944.98, which includes the above notes or due bills. The Grand High Priest was allowed \$75, for time employed and expenses incurred in the discharge of his official duties, and \$25 for compiling Report on Foreign Correspondence; \$6 was allowed for services rendered on Committee on Jurisprudence; \$20 for the Grand Guard, and \$6 for ice and washing aprons; \$756.90 was paid for mileage, and \$537 for per diem to the Representatives of subordinate Chapters.

Thirty-eight Grand Chapters' proceedings are reviewed by the Grand High Priest; and we must be pardoned in saying that it is expected that the reports of the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters should be examined *carefully* and reported *truly*. Comp. Johnson in many cases is severe in his criticisms of his peers in the office of Grand High Priest. As regards the report on Pennsylvania, our Companions may judge of the impartiality of the report. He says:

"Pennsylvania met in Annual Communication, December 27th, 1877. This Grand jurisdiction has quarterly Communications, under a system *peculiarly* their own."

"*Peculiarly*" is a word that we have used several times in our review of Indiana. It is a fitting word and applies as "peculiarly" to Indiana as Pennsylvania.

"Officers are elected at quarterly meetings, and at annual meeting nothing was done except the appointment of subordinate officers, of which there were appointed *ten* Grand Chaplains. What necessity for that number of Chaplains exists we cannot say; one does very well for Indiana, and we do not suppose Pennsylvania is any better than we are—but our Companions know their own faults and necessities, and if ten Chaplains can make them better than one we certainly ought not to complain."

We have had occasions in years gone by, to explain the

reasons why we have so many Grand Chaplains. We refer Comp. Johnson to our reports of previous years.

Again, it is stated that "officers are elected at quarterly meetings." This is not so, our officers are elected at the November Communication only. And again, "at the annual meeting nothing was done except the appointment of subordinate officers," in error again. At the Annual Grand Communication, held on St. John's Day, our Grand High Priest and other Grand Officers are installed, addresses are made, the Report on Foreign Correspondence is submitted (or should be) and the appointments of Subordinate Grand Officers and Committees announced.

And now the most severe blow of all. He says:

"Nearly every member of the Grand Chapter received some appointment, as there were seven general committees appointed, five members to each, and *eighteen Deputy Grand High Priests.*"

How a membership of nearly 1500 will divide into seven general committees of five each, we leave to Comp. Johnson. There is a slight surplus of over 1450 members of our Grand Chapter. If we are not mistaken the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has the largest membership of any Grand Chapter in the world.

It is true our attendance is not large, but we do not pay our representatives mileage and per diem to secure their attendance.

Of the report of Comp. Worrell, he says it is "good and readable, abounds in quotations and comments, and is in fact the only thing of interest in their proceedings. It occupies one hundred and thirty-five pages of their proceedings, about twenty pages of which contain the address of the Grand Chaplain, and is the best of all." In error again, the address was not by our Grand Chaplain, but by Grand Chaplain Murray, of New York, and was merely an extract in the report.

Comp. Johnson in conclusion, says:

"In the beginning of this labor we determined to be brief—to condense—and "to speak to the point" as far as possi-

ble ; if we hold different views to some of our Companions, it is our right, and this Grand Chapter is not responsible for our opinions.

“The reviewers, ‘who shall come after us,’ are authorized to lay on and spare not ; and if we have said aught to wound the feelings of any one, we are willing to be forgiven.”

Ninety-five Chapters ; 4,543 membership ; a decrease of 332.

Martin H. Rice, Indianapolis, Grand High Priest.

John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

IOWA—1877.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, was held in Davenport, on October 2d, 1877. Comp. Horace S. Winslow, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding.

Forty-three of the eighty-one Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest is opposed to the formation of new Chapters, yet had granted Dispensations for three.

He had decided :

“*First*, Held that if a Companion voluntarily states the reasons for an objection to the exaltation of a Brother who has been balloted for and received all the degrees but the Royal Arch, and this whether done at the time objection was made or subsequently, the objection and reason then become the property of the Chapter, and proceedings must be had as provided in section XV, of the Constitution.

“*Second*, The Chapter cannot, by vote, make the objection and reason therefor its property, nor require the High Priest to state the same. It becomes the property of the Chapter only when, and solely because, the voluntary statement is made by the objector.”

The rights of a member to object by ballot or otherwise to the admission of a candidate cannot be too sacredly guarded, but when a Companion reveals the secret of his ballot, he should be held strictly to the justness of his objection.

“*Third*. A High Priest has no authority to declare the office of Secretary vacant because of non-attendance upon the part of such officer.”

And why not. Is not the High Priest responsible for his Chapter, and, in our mind, would be justified in suspending from office any officer below the Scribe. It has occurred that an officer by neglecting his duties has jeopardized the life of his Chapter, and would not a High Priest be justified in protecting its life?

Again the subject of spurious Masons is talked of:

"At our last Convocation I took occasion to call your attention to the subject of Colored Masonry. This has been noticed to some extent, and especially by the various Committees on Foreign Correspondence in the different sister Grand Jurisdictions, and has elicited comment, both friendly and otherwise. I refer to it again at this time, believing it to be a matter worthy of the serious attention of the Craft; and also believing that it is only by and through constant agitation and repeated effort that sufficient interest may be awakened to induce its proper consideration and just action. Comp. Ogden, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of New York, in reviewing the question with words happily chosen, says: 'The race question is a very interesting one in this country, and it will touch Masonry in its outreaching, and Masonry must touch it, and touch it, too, so as to cover it with its broad mantle of charity and its sweet spirit of brotherhood, and thus do good to all classes, races, and conditions, and mould them all into a truer and broader brotherhood.' This, in brief, includes, in my judgment, the entire argument. The 'race question' is already touching our institution and crowding hard against it. Shall we longer refuse to touch it? Is it right that we longer continue to turn by on the other side, or pretend that we do not hear the call? I trust that the time is near at hand when the sweet voice of Masonry shall summon her children from all quarters of the globe, unfettered by caste, race, or color. Then, and not till then, shall we be in very truth what we profess to be."

We would ask Comp. Winslow, *who* has called to him for recognition? If they are Masons for whom he appeals let him direct that the doors of his Chapters be opened to them. It seems he is perfectly willing to *talk*, but *not to do*. Has the Grand High Priest of Iowa been guilty of visiting and holding Masonic communication with these spurious Royal

Arch Masons, and does he now want to discuss the subject and ease his conscience, or can there be a political significance in the matter being referred to at all, if so, politics should not be brought into Masonry.

The Committee on Colored (Black) Royal Arch Masonry, said, "We need not further express our judgment, as the initiatory move must come from the Grand Lodges of the several States."

Of the meeting of the General Grand Chapter he says, "But the session will be noted rather for what it did not do than for what it did."

A Committee was appointed to act with a like Committee from the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters for a session of these degrees. Another new hobby.

The Grand Chapter ordered the preparation of a steel-plate portrait of Past Grand High Priest Winslow, which embellishes the front of the present Proceedings. Portraits are also presented of M. E. Comps. T. S. Parvin and E. W. Eastman. *Ante-mortem* obituaries follow of all the Past Grand High Priests of Iowa.

Comp. J. M. Shaffer presents the report on Foreign Correspondence. He presents a careful review of thirty-nine Grand Chapters and has some very queer ideas. 1st, A Past Master *actual*, is not a Past Master *virtual*. He must pay for that in a Chapter what he received free of charge as an Honor in the Lodge.

He says a one-armed man can be made a Royal Arch Mason.

This is the manner in which he starts out to review Pennsylvania:

"Pamphlet, full octavo; pp. 114; tinted paper; excellent typography; Philadelphia 1877.

"PROCEEDINGS.

"'Grand Holy Royal Arch.' That is what the title page says; that is what the large capitals at the heading declare. The HOLY Royal Arch. This expressive title is omitted by all the Chapters, but it has a familiar sound. When 'Holiness to the Lord' is inscribed upon our banners—'In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses HOLINESS to the

Lord, and the pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bowls before the altar ; yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of Hosts.'—Zach. xiv. 20. Why, then, shall not every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons be 'holy'?

"The Annual Grand Convocation was held December 27th, 1876. There were eighteen Chapters represented ; we observe a number as high as 258. There is no report or return from dependent Chapters ; no roster of officers and members ; nothing to indicate how many Chapters there are, how many members, who they are, what they are, where they have a habitation, etc. In other words, there is no individuality in this pamphlet. There are thousands of us in Iowa who would like to look down the list of members, and strike here and there a familiar name. We, who come from the land 'settled by deeds of peace,' love the name and fame of the Keystone State. We should rejoice to see a list of names of Companions there, that we might recall, between the Schuylkill and the Allegheny, many a grand good Brother, whom we loved in the early day. But the singular fact remains that so very few Chapters are represented—eighteen out of two hundred and fifty-eight, and perhaps a greater number even than that. Where were the two hundred and forty? Pennsylvania is so traversed with railroads that not much land is left for agricultural purposes ; then why, in the name of Zerubbabel, don't they all attend the Grand Annual meeting of the Holy Royal Arch, and make a stupendous time of it? Why is not every man at his post? It may not be obligatory ; and, besides, the phlegmatic tempers of our Teutonic Companions may induce that spirit of repose which is content to allow others to rule, so long as the government sits lightly upon the subject. But we would greatly prefer to see the Grand Councils of two hundred and fifty-eight Chapters coming up solidly to their work, taking an active interest, and aiding the noble eighteen to make Capitular Masonry what it ought to be. We can only learn what our Companions in Pennsylvania mean by indulging in these generalizations."

There is this difference between Iowa and Pennsylvania, and that is, we do not pay mileage and per diem to the members of our Grand Chapter ; you do ; stop paying and your members will stop attending. Our members attend for the love they have of Royal Arch Masonry, yours be-

cause their expenses are paid ; they can have a “*stupendous*” time ; because it costs them nothing. Try cutting off the money and you will find it difficult to get even eighteen Chapters represented.

Of our remarks two years ago on Spurious Royal Arch Masonry, he says :

“About colored Royal Arch Masons: He quotes what M. E. Grand High Priest Winslow said in his address. He quotes the entire report of the Committee on the address of the Grand High Priest, and, as a ‘comment’ upon the two quotations, he cites what Comp. Pillsbury said in his introduction to his report on Foreign Correspondence ; all of which need not be reproduced here, and says :

“‘ We object to Comp. Pillsbury placing this spurious organization among the regular Grand Chapters of this country.’

“Comp. Pillsbury did right. He was telling the Craft what the work of the Order was everywhere. It was his duty as a faithful chronicler to tell the whole truth as it appeared to him. Comp. Pillsbury knew he had no right to say, as a certain disciple once said : ‘Not so, Lord ;’ for the voice said to him : ‘What God hath cleansed, *that* call not thou common.’ And this voice of God was at Joppa ; may it be heard also in Philadelphia.”

We say again, the question is not one of *color*, but of having received the degrees in a lawful manner. What is known as clandestine let not the Royal Arch Masons of Iowa call genuine.

Eighty-three Chapters ; 4,253 members ; 273 increase.

Comp. Abel W. Daugherty, Dubuque, Grand High Priest.

Comp. William B. Langridge, Muscatine, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS—1877.

The Thirteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Kansas was held in Topeka, October 16th, 1877, M. E. Comp. Dwight Byington, Grand High Priest.

Twenty-three Chapters represented.

The business is mostly of a local nature.

A committee was appointed to act with a similar commit-

tee from the Grand Lodge to erect a monument over the remains of Richard R. Rees, the first Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter.

Comp. E. T. Carr, Grand Secretary, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of forty-one Grand Bodies. He reviews Pennsylvania for 1876.

Under the head of the Grand Mark Lodge of England he says:

“We presume their organization is as ‘regular’ as some other Bodies, but their practice being so different from ours, we fear a recognition would have a tangling influence. The subject of their recognition will, no doubt, be presented at the present Convocation, but to have a better understanding of it, we believe the consideration of the question should be postponed until our next Annual Convocation.”

Notwithstanding which we are glad to find that the Grand Chapter of Kansas recognized the Grand Mark Lodge of England.

Thirty-two Chapters; membership, 1149; a gain of 29.

Moses S. Adams, Wichita, Grand High Priest.

Erasmus T. Carr, Leavenworth, Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY—1877.

The Sixty-second Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky was held in Louisville, October 15th, 1877.

Most Excellent Comp. James W. Staton, Grand High Priest.

Eighty-two Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is earnest and practical.

Of the General Grand Chapter, he says:

“The General Grand Chapter is no longer the dead, lifeless body that its enemies have claimed it to be, but is a body of life and energy, with plenty of talent and sufficient ability to make it respectable in any country. It is no longer opened and closed in that style which is calculated to disgust intelligent Royal Arch Masons, but, at the late Triennial

Convocation, was opened and closed in as good order as any Royal Arch Chapter in the land.

"It is gradually assuming the dignity of a governing body, as well as an advising body, and by its kind and conciliatory course has won back nearly all the seceding Grand Chapters."

A request was made by the Grand Commandery that the Grand Chapter instruct the subordinates to notify the nearest Commanderies of all suspensions and expulsions, which request was fraternally granted.

The sum of \$200 was appropriated towards reprinting the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Staton, was appointed to prepare said reprint.

We have received for our Grand Lodge Library several of these reprints, and can say that the work is creditably done.

Comp. H. A. M. Henderson submits the report on Foreign Correspondence. His introduction is to the point:

"We have never seen anything develop so rapidly as the literature of Royal Arch Masonry. Ten years ago, when we first became personally acquainted with this department of letters, there was a paucity of ideas that was positively distressing to a thought-searcher. But year after year has added to the stock of jurisprudence, homilies and sentiments, until, to-day, it is a decided pleasure to read up the intellectual and facetious deliverance of the Reportorial Corps. And the superiority of the veteran reviewers to the Grand High Priests is very apparent to one who annually reads the addresses and *appendices*.

"The Grand High Priests remind us of a penny kaleidoscope. As the few bits of broken glass, colored beads and artificial flowers yield a new pattern every time the instrument is turned over, so the same triteisms, moral cant, and hackneyed phrases are made to do annual service, no matter who reflects them. There is a change of arrangement and of the mental angles of reflection, but the same old fragmentary material. Now and then, 'like angel's visits,' etc., some one gives us a diorama of new and pleasing views, and such men are hailed by the reviewers as the discoverer of continents, by kings avaricious of wealth and dominion. The Committees on Foreign Correspondence are the true gold-washers of Masonry—separating the shining particles from

the worthless talc and sand. Some of them, too, are mint-masters, giving the mental gold new coinage and currency, and sending it into the world stamped with their own image and superscription.

“In no field have we ever found more sharp, active, keen invective, tempered with good humor, than in the Reports on Foreign Correspondence.

“Some, too, failing to perceive the spirit of the Degrees, have so interpreted them as to reduce them from their high dramatic excellence to a mere childish comedy. The coarse buffoonery sometimes practiced in the Chapter is very reprehensible, and should be rebuked by all who are the official custodians of Capitular Masonry.

“Seriousness and solemnity are the concomitants of all proper handling of the Chapter work. Even the Past Master’s Degree was designed for, and assuredly deserves, much more dignified treatment than it generally receives. Very much of all this Masonic buffoonery is the product of androgynous Masonry—or in plain terms—the so-called ‘Side Degrees.’ Many desiring ‘a little fun,’ have taxed their vulgar ingenuity to get up some comical ‘sell,’ and with great gravity assumed to induct a candidate into some profound mystery. The clownish spirit, born of such irreverent trifling with holy things, is transported to the Chapter proper, and it never fails to damage our Institution in the estimation of those who have serious views of existence, and of responsible relations to God and humanity, life and death, time and eternity.

“We would favor a proposition to make the creation and conferring of these burlesque Degrees a criminal offence, and thus, by a rigorous penal statute, put a speedy end to one of the agencies contributing to the undignifying, if not tending to the positive degradation, of Masonry.

“In our judgment, there should always be a most scrupulous observance at our Chapter meetings of the prescriptions of the work. The officers should wear the robes, breastplate, crown, mitre, etc. The habit of doing things in an undress, slouchy way contributes to a lowering of the whole tone of the Chapter traditions and work.

“With these remarks we enter upon our task as Correspondent with Foreign Jurisdictions.”

Among the Grand Chapters reviewed is Pennsylvania for 1876, of which he says:

“We had referred to their costly Temple, and suggested

that it had been better to have built a Widows and Orphans' Home, which leads Comp. Meyer to give the following gratifying information:

"Yes, we have a magnificent Temple, of which we are justly proud, yet we do not forget the poor. We have, under the control of our Grand Lodge, two of the greatest charities in this country. The Grand Lodge Charity Fund, amounting to some \$60,000, relieving the widows and orphans of Brethren (who were in good standing at the time of their death), distributing annually over \$3,000. Then we have the Stephen Girard bequest, amounting to some \$60,000, distributing over \$3,000 annually to worthy distressed Brethren. Again, we have the Subordinate Lodges, Mark Lodges, Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies, distributing in charity thousands of dollars annually. None worthy of aid are turned away empty-handed, and when in the future we do erect our Masonic Home, it will be one worthy of the name.'

"We do not object to the Temple. Generally, those who do the most to provide neat and attractive places for Masons to meet, can be most relied on for charity. We have noticed that those Churches which are built of cheap material and left to the mercy of the elements, are occupied by the most penurious congregations. A poor, dilapidated school-house in a neighborhood is a sure indicator of parsimony in employing a teacher. The woman who broke the alabaster box of ointment for the anointing of Christ was a thousand times more deserving than the hypocritical Judas who complained of this offering of love. Masonry is abundantly able to temple itself in architectural grandeur, and thus show the world the respect it entertains for its principles, and, at the same time, heed the cry of the suffering and relieve the cry of the needy."

The report is an able one and very readable.

One hundred and nine Chapters; membership, 3509 (of which number 234 are ministers); a loss of 194.

James B. Blue, Morganfield, Grand High Priest.

Joseph H. Branham, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA—1878.

The Grand Chapter of Louisiana met in New Orleans, February 12th, 1878, and was opened by M. E. Comp. Joseph H. DeGrange, Grand High Priest.

Sixteen Chapters represented.

The Proceedings are of local interest.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. J. C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary. He reviews forty-one Grand Chapters. Nearly all for two years. Pennsylvania for 1875-1876, of the number.

He comments on degrees being conferred in the *open* Grand Chapter. He quotes largely from the Report of Comp. Wm. J. Kelly, and from our Report of 1876. He gives some experience of a visit to Philadelphia.

“It was our hope and wish to have seen the *work*, when in Philadelphia last year; but though receiving the assistance of several kind Brothers and Companions, we failed to meet the opportunity; nevertheless, the kindness of the Companions is remembered with pleasure, and the obligation is as great, as if the attempt had proved successful.”

We regret very much that Comp. Batchelor was disappointed; hope he will have better luck next time.

He quotes in full Comp. James Horner Neilson's (of Dublin) report to our Grand Chapter on Irish Royal Arch Masonry.

Comp. Batchelor furnishes interesting opinions on various subjects. Of the Past Master,

“This pseudo-DEGREE is peculiarly American, and, so far as we know or can ascertain, is *not worked* as a degree by any other jurisdiction. We had occasion to examine into this ‘degree’ in 1846, in our then Grand Lodge, and the conclusions ultimately arrived at, have only been strengthened by reading and observation since, viz: That it is anomalous, and has no proper or rightful claim to be considered a *degree* in Masonry whatever; that it is not only worthless as such, but a misnomer, whose only mission seems to have been to create annoyance and confusion; which

judging from the various and contradictory opinions expressed by American Masonic bodies, writers and officials, it seems to have accomplished fully. The first we hear of it as a 'degree,' is, on its introduction by Webb into the Chapter series, evidently to make the Chapters independent of the Grand Master, and get rid of the annoyance or trouble of asking his permission to '*pass the chair in the Lodge*,' that thus, becoming a Past Master (virtual), the party might apply for the Royal Arch—this necessity growing out of the requirement in the constitution (O. B.,) that the Royal Arch is conferable upon none but Past Masters.

"This style, title or nomenclature being copied, what was known as the 'secrets of the chair,' became known, and for the first time (in the Lodge) as the Past Master's *degree*; and, the most objectional of all claims ever made for, or in favor of it, was successfully made, is, that it *qualified* the W. M. elect to *preside*. In Cross's visit to Virginia in 1816-'17, he so thoroughly indoctrinated that jurisdiction with its propriety and necessity (See Dove's History) that it passed, in 1818, the celebrated law relative to installation, and which is maintained in that jurisdiction to this day; that *before installation*, the W. M. and *Wardens elect*, must be invested with the Past Master's *degree*.

"This was subsequently advocated and sustained by one of the most popular Masonic writers and Ritualists of the day, who, in support of it (the Past Master's degree), maintained that it qualifies the W. M. elect to preside; and, in support of this argument (and to maintain its *antiquity as a degree*) garbles the following quotation from Preston, viz:

"'A *private examination* is always understood to *precede* the *installation* of EVERY officer,' which he renders thus:

"'A *private examination* is understood to *precede* the *installation* of the WORSHIPFUL MASTER.' See Monitors, etc.

"If the above *assertion* were *true*, it would do away with the supremacy of the Grand Lodge, from the fact that it does not acknowledge, or claim the control of the Past Master's degree or claim it as belonging to the Lodge series, and is therefore dependent upon the assent or concurrence of the convocation of an organization which it does not recognize, and who do control it, for the *qualifying* of the W. M. elect,

to *enable* him to *preside* over the *Lodge*, created by the *Grand Lodge*, which thus virtually would be acknowledging its lack of supremacy, and its dependency upon the will and pleasure of an outside body or organization, of which it has no official knowledge or control.

“There is no Masonic author of any importance that we are aware of, except Mackey, who claims that the Past Master’s ‘*degree*,’ as such, existed before 1795, when it was introduced into the American Capitular system, by Webb, Richards, Fowler, and others. But, in 1798, the Hartford Convention accepted it, and from this time, so far as the American Chapter was concerned, it became a *de facto*, whether *de jure* or not.

“Chase in his Digest, says :

“‘It certainly is not older than the last part of the last century.’

“In its origin, ‘the Holy Royal Arch’ of Dermot, was evidently intended for a select degree, and a very exclusive one, from the fact that it was to be confined to Past Masters only.

“Now, who, or *what was a Past Master then?*—‘one who had been elected to preside over a just and legally constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and *had served his time* (or term),’ and this is the law of *that jurisdiction to this day*.

The Royal Arch degree, or, as it was then called, ‘the completion of the Master’s part,’ became popular, and many wished to obtain it, who were not, and who never expected to become a W. Master of a Lodge; but, as only Past Masters could obtain it, what was to be done?—call on the inherent powers of the Grand Master (of course) who, by his dispensation, permitted them to ‘*pass the chair*.’ Thus, by equivocation, ‘whipping the d—l around the stump,’ they become ‘virtual Past Masters,’ and obtain the ‘degree (as now termed),’ but, in reality, pass the chair in the Lodge.

“Now, Webb & Co., had no more right, authority or justification to introduce the ceremony of the ‘secrets of the chair,’ as a ‘*degree*’ into the *Chapter*, than Dermot had to introduce the Royal Arch; yet both succeeded.”

There is one thing we are sorry for, and that is, that

Comp. Batchelor is a believer in the new heresy that suspension in the Lodge is not suspension in the Chapter.

Twenty-nine Chapters ; membership, 1424 ; a loss of 80.

William Robson, Shreveport, Grand High Priest.

James C. Batchelor, M.D., New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

MAINE—1878.

The Fifty-third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maine was held in Portland, May 7th, 1878, and was opened by M. E. Comp. A. B. Marston, Grand High Priest.

Forty-one Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports his official actions. He had been a very zealous and faithful officer.

On the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree he says :

“In almost every Chapter which I have visited, where the work has been upon the R. A. Degree, I have had occasion to call the attention of the Companions to the rough and sometimes undignified proceedings which have, to a greater or less degree, characterized the work while the candidates were passing through certain portions of the ceremony.

“Companions, remember that those who entrust themselves to our hands, do so in the belief that they are to be treated in such a manner as will show that we respect not only them, but ourselves. Remember that when we stoop to levity in this beautiful Degree, we give warrant for the assumption that this belief has not been well founded, and that we are not exemplifying ‘that rectitude of conduct which ought to actuate all those who pass the white veil of the sanctuary.’ ”

He made the following decision in reference to suspension for non-payment of dues :

“In the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maine a Brother, for non-payment of dues, is not suspended from the ‘rights and benefits,’ but only ‘deprived of’ or ‘suspended’ from *membership*. This action does not affect his standing in

the Chapter. A Companion may retain his membership in the Chapter, and be non-affiliate in the Blue Lodge."

And in Maine suspension is not suspension.

The Grand Mark Lodge of England was duly recognized.

The reprinting of the early Proceedings ordered was continued.

A special assessment of 10 cents on each member was made upon the Subordinate Chapters for defraying expenses of visitations, etc.

Comp. Josiah H. Drummond presents the report on Foreign Correspondence, but he gratefully acknowledges that the major part of the report was from the ready pen of Comp. John S. Derby.

Comp. Drummond furnishes the following on the subject of Grand Chapter dues and statistics :

"It has occurred to us, in view of the difficulty which surrounds the question of non-payment of dues, that it would be interesting to our Companions to know how much the different Grand Chapters tax their subordinates.

"This becomes especially interesting, because the revenue, heretofore received for new Charters, has almost wholly ceased, and because the receipts for conferring degrees have so materially diminished, as to fail to produce enough to pay the ordinary expenses.

"We have, therefore, prepared a table showing in what manner the various Grand Chapters obtain their revenues, and the rule by which they are collected.

"It is quite probable that there are some errors in it, on account of recent changes in the By-Laws of the Grand Bodies ; but it is correct enough for all practical purposes.

"We also show the *minimum* fee which Subordinates in the various jurisdictions are required to charge for the degrees.

"It will be seen that the Grand Chapters, with very few

exceptions, assess a *per capita* tax; and about *three-quarters* of them make it *fifty cents* or upwards.

Grand Chapters.	Dues for all the Degrees.	Dues from Members.	Minimum fee for the Degrees.	Remarks.
Alabama,	—	\$0.75	\$30.00	
Arkansas,	\$2.00	.25	—	\$1.00 for affiliations.
California,	4.00	1.50	50.00	
Canada,	3.00	—	20.00	\$1.50 for diploma and .50 for [affiliation]
Colorado,	3.00	1.00	50.00	
Connecticut,	—	.15	20.00	
Delaware,	3.00	.50	20.00	
Dist. of Columbia,	3.00	.50	30.00	
Florida,	3.00	1.00	20.00	
Georgia,	2.00	1.00	20.00	
Illinois,	—	.75	30.00	Each Chapter must pay \$10.
Indiana,	2.00	.25	20.00	
Iowa,	2.00	.50	25.00	
Kansas,	2.00	.50	40.00	
Kentucky,	—	1.00	25.00	
Louisiana,	8.00	1.00	40.00	\$50 in New Orleans.
Maine,	2.00	—	20.00	Each Chapter pays \$9 besides.
Maryland,	2.00	1.00	30.00	
Massachusetts,	3.00	—	25.00	Each Chapter pays \$6 besides.
Michigan,	2.00	.50	25.00	
Minnesota,	3.00	.50	—	
Mississippi,	2.00	1.00	40.00	
Missouri,	2.00	1.00	30.00	
Nebraska,	5.00	.75	25.00	
Nevada,	10.00	1.00	50.00	
New Hampshire,	1.00	.20	20.00	
New Jersey,	2.00	.50	20.00	
New York,	3.00	.50	20.00	
North Carolina,	—	—	20.00	Each Chapter pays \$15.
Nova Scotia,	1.00	.25	20.00	\$1.50 also for Diploma.
Ohio,	2.00	.50	20.00	
Oregon,	5.00	1.00	50.00	
Pennsylvania,	2.00	.40	16.00	
Quebec,	3.00	.50	20.00	
Rhode Island,	3.00	.15	30.00	
South Carolina,	4.00	.50	25.00	
Tennessee,	5.00	.50	35.00	
Texas,	2.00	.50	30.00	
Vermont,	3.00	—	25.00	
Virginia,	—	.50	20.00	Each Chapter must pay at
West Virginia,	—	.50	20.00	[least \$5.00]
Wisconsin,	2.00	.75	30.00	

“In Pennsylvania, twenty-five per cent. discount is made to Chapters outside of Philadelphia.

“The recent returns from Vermont indicate that a *per capita* tax is now laid, but we fail to find any provision for it.

“To ascertain the relative amount of dues paid in the different jurisdictions we have applied the rule of each Grand Chapter to our returns made last year, when the amount of dues (exclusive of General Grand Chapter tax) was \$684.

“Under the rule of Vermont, we should have paid \$459; of Connecticut, \$620; of North Carolina, \$630; of Massachusetts, \$711; of New Jersey, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Ohio and Texas, \$2,375; of Delaware, District of Columbia, Minnesota, New York and Quebec, \$2,528; Virginia and West Virginia, \$2,040; of Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi and Missouri, \$4,446; of Alabama and Illinois, \$3,105; of Wisconsin, \$3,411; Colorado and Florida, \$4,600; of Arkansas and Indiana, \$1,441; of New Hampshire, \$981; of Rhode Island, \$1,080; of Pennsylvania, \$1,962; of South Carolina, \$2,682; of Tennessee, \$2,835; of Nebraska, \$3,870; of Kentucky, \$4,140; of Oregon, \$4,905; of Louisiana, \$5,364; of Nevada, \$5,670; and of California, \$6,822: the average would be about \$2,700.

“It will be seen that our Chapters pay about *one-tenth* of what they pay in California,* and about *one-quarter* of the average; in California, the dues *actually paid* are \$5,370, an average of about *one dollar and eighty cents* per member, while in Maine it was less than *eighteen cents* per member, including dues to General Grand Chapter. It certainly cannot be truly said that our Grand Chapter is an *expensive* Institution.

“It is evident that the least variable basis for dues is a *per capita* tax: our revenues from Charters has almost entirely ceased: the receipts for exaltations have fallen off from \$800 to \$300, or less: in order that the Grand Chapter may act understandingly upon the subject, we have given these statistics.

“We should have said that many of the Grand Chapters pay mileage or per diem or both; the By-Laws of California Grand Chapter provide *fifty cents per capita* for this purpose.

“We append our usual Table:

* We find that in 1878 the dues were reduced fifty cents, which would reduce the amount to \$4,752.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	No. of Subordinates.	Ditto making Returns.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions & Restorations.	Dismissals.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non- pay't dues.	Deaths.	Rejections.
Alabama	49	37	1,059	47	27	47	1	1	42	16	3
Arkansas	64	40	1,453	67	16	45	1	1	13	28	..
California	49	49	2,990	221	62	73	16	0	60	41	14
Canada	70	70	3,115	391	178	101	7	*72	..	32	..
Colorado	7	7	359	30	..	7	1	*22	..	1	..
Connecticut	35	35	3,846	102	33	20	0	4	17	53	..
Delaware	6	6	320	26	1	3	0	*10	..	2	..
Dist. of Columbia	8	8	1,091	71	22	20	..	1	48	15	3
Florida	16	8	280	7	4	5	..	*7	..	5	..
Georgia.†	54	44	1,724	58	20	83	3	..	*104	28	5
Illinois	168	168	10,671	549	108	258	18	*394	..	116	4
Indiana	95	90	4,875	187	39	105	19	13	100	79	..
Iowa	85	82	4,253	353	53	186	8	*51	..	34	..
Kansas	35	35	1,149	80	40	36	3	1	42	7	14
Kentucky	105	90	3,509	160	51	105	3	*230	..	62	..
Louisiana	29	28	1,424	32	25	20	0	0	83	35	0
Maine	42	42	4,129	131	14	81	1	*17	1	49	19
Maryland	12	12	1,258	45	10	..	..	*24	..	23	0
Massachusetts . . .	68	68	9,237	337	..	185	0	*34	..	105	..
Michigan	100	99	7,385	415	36	168	9	9	196	80	..
Minnesota	31	29	1,623	106	39	29	1	0	37	17	..
Mississippi	73	58	1,930	87	60	70	1	5	113	..	..
Missouri	89	81	3,935	216	60	121	5	*96	..	52	12
Nebraska	15	14	683	52	51	33	2	*26	..	2	..
Nevada	8	8	402	26	14	20	0	0	5	1	1
New Hampshire . . .	19	19	2,157	103	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
New Jersey	35	35	2,834	107	16	15	0	*122	..	38	..
New York	191	191	17,642	733	163	314	10	0	1188	215	59
North Carolina . . .	22	22	912	21	5	7	1	1	0	6	3
Nova Scotia	9	9	359	17	1	21	0	0	4	3	0
Ohio	136	135	8,464	372	162	193	11	1	350	91	..
Oregon	13	13	415	25	11	20	0	0	0	6	1
Pennsylvania† . . .	97	96	10,747	729	77	63	..	..	*228	132	..
Quebec	9	9	439	30	7	53	..	*6	..	3	..
Rhode Island	10	10	1,617	49	..	2	0	2	1	19	5
South Carolina . . .	33	25	903	37	9	38	0	1	25	11	..
Tennessee	93	81	3,403	95	35	100	4	28	122	57	..
Texas	95	95	3,946	428	155	274	7	*152	..	127	..
Vermont	25	25	1,867	65	..	13	0	8	..	31	..
Virginia	38	33	1,601	72	35	83	2	*37	..	22	..
West Virginia.† . .	17	15	509	36	3	16	0	0	11	5	..
Wisconsin	53	53	3,133	186	29	104	1	*42	..	27	23
	2,103	1,974	133,648	6,501	1,687	2,145	135	1,420	2,788	1,676	166

* Including suspension for non-payment of dues.

† No returns this year; taken from last year's Table.

“As we apprehended last year, there is a falling off in the aggregate membership, which is probably to continue, as the surrender and revocation of charters, and the suspensions for non-payment of dues, will probably also continue: there has been quite an increase of suspensions, most of which were for non-payment of dues.

“But we think we have nearly reached the bottom of the descent, and that we shall soon begin to ascend with a steady and healthy growth. It is certain that the rage for ‘mutual relief,’ on a pecuniary basis, is drawing many into the kindred societies (where a system of benefits prevails), who

would otherwise have become or *remained* Masons. We have noticed that the formation of a 'Masonic Relief Society,' requiring candidates to be members of a Masonic Body, has stimulated many non-affiliates to seek membership again. While this fever prevails we must expect that the growth of old-fashioned Masonry will be slow, and we shall do well if we protect and defend it from the attempts to make it a 'Mutual Relief Association,' and thereby destroy the most admirable of its fundamental principles."

Of Pennsylvania he says:

"We should have received Pennsylvania, 1877, but we suspect that the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence is behind with his report, as *our* experience last year has taught us that this may happen even 'in the *best* regulated families.'"

Forty-two Chapters; membership, 4,129; a loss of 9.

Arlington B. Marston, Bangor, Grand High Priest.

Ira Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND—1877.

The Annual Convocation held in Baltimore, November 13th, 1877, was opened by Comp. Charles F. Achey, M. E. Grand High Priest.

Eleven Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports the death of Comp. Frederick Woodworth, Grand Treasurer.

On the Cryptic Degrees, he says:

"At the last Convocation of this Grand Chapter, many of its members expressed the opinion that the surrender of the Cryptic degrees had proved a blunder; and no doubt it is the desire of some that those degrees should be placed under the control of the Chapter. While fully recognizing their importance, and willing to aid in placing them on a firm and substantial basis, I am convinced that it is not within the province of this Grand Body to legislate on the subject. It has surrendered whatever right it had to the degrees, and actually abandoned them, and Councils have been formed and a Grand Council instituted, which has been recognized by similar Grand Councils, and is sovereign within its sphere. In my opinion, it would be an interference with es-

tablished rights to legislate on the subject. It seems to me that we must at least wait until overtures shall be made by the Grand Council to this Grand Body, before we can, with propriety, take any action in the matter."

The following are extracts from the Records requested from the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia:

"June 17th, A. L. 5797.

"A letter from Comp. Sweeny was read. It states that a Royal Arch Grand Lodge is about to be formed for the State of Maryland, to meet at Baltimore the 24th June. It being considered as departing from the ancient landmarks to enter into a business of that kind, it was determined that no Representative shall be sent from this Chapter."

"Saturday, 4th Nov. 97, A. L. 5797.

"A circular letter from George L. Gray, No. 50 Market Street, Baltimore, addressed to Comp. James Sweeny, containing information of the establishment of a Grand Royal Arch Chapter in the City of Baltimore, to which an answer, containing the opinions of the Brethren, was addressed to the said George L. Gray, signed by the H. P., C. G. and Grand Masters, a copy of which is reserved in the Chapter."

"This Chapter was 'broke up' by unanimous consent on February --, 1799, and resuscitated December 1st, 1804. The last record of its proceedings contained in the book is dated August 21st, 1808.

"The following of interest in connection with the Grand Chapter of Maryland is found therein.

"Sunday, the 14th of Decr. 1806.

"*Resolved*, That this R. A. Chapter concur with the Resolutions passed by Concordia R. A. Chapter as far as respects a Grand R. A. Chapter, and that a Committee be appointed to meet in Grand Convention (at the City of Washington, on the third Wednesday in January next), any committees which may be appointed for the purpose aforesaid."

"*Resolved*, That Comps. C. Jones, A. McCormick, O. Cook, Thomas Holiday, N. Queen, and R. Elliott, be said Committee."

"Saturday Evening, the 18th day of February, 1807.

"*Ordered*, That this Chapter be represented at the next Grand Royal Arch Chapter to be held at Baltimore."

“Washington, April 18th, 1807.

“*Ordered*, That this Chapter be represented at the next Royal Arch Chapter to be held at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, on the 2nd Thursday of May next, by the officers fixed on by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter.’

“*Resolved*, That that part of the Constitution which states that the High Priest and King are the proper Representatives be altered, so as to add “unless ordered by the Chapter.”’

“*Resolved*, That the Treasurer do pay into the hands of the Treasurer of the Grand R. A. Chapter, \$10 for the purpose of obtaining our Warrant, and also other contingent expenses relative thereto.’

“*Resolved*, That the Treasurer do pay to the delegates such sums as may be necessary to defray their expenses and dues of this Chapter to the G. R. A. Chapter.’”

They have a singular way of electing the subordinate officers of the Grand Chapter: “The senior representatives of the several Chapters present were requested to retire and report nominations.” Each representative can then look out that his Chapter receives the fair amount of appointments.

Comp. E. T. Schultz presents the Report on Foreign Correspondence. He reviews the Proceedings of forty Grand Bodies, Pennsylvania, for 1876, included. Under the head of Pennsylvania, in speaking of the decision of P. G. High Priest Wagner, that the High Priest could only receive the High Priesthood in a Chapter, he says:

“And we would ask, why cannot the Order of the High Priesthood be conferred at any ‘place other than the Chapter Hall?’ We once conferred it in the ante-room, whilst the Grand Chapter was in session in the adjoining room, and never for a moment thought there was any impropriety in so doing.”

We have heard of the Mark Degree being conferred in olden times in a public bar-room, yet that did not make it proper and right, and neither was it proper to confer the Order of High Priesthood in an ante-room.

Again, he says, in reference to the report of our Committee of Appeals last year:

"We suppose the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has adopted 'forms' for trials as many jurisdictions have, and which in our humble opinion are innovations.

"Truth, justice and equity alone being required in all Masonic investigations, and these to be ascertained in the simplest manner possible, any and everything like technicalities should be studiously avoided.

"It appears to us, without, of course, knowing anything whatever of the merits of the case referred to, that the decision of the Chapter was overruled, in part, at least, if not wholly, upon technical ground. For we hold that it is not requisite to show the *exact time or place* at which or where an unmasonic offence was committed. The simple inquiry should be: Was the offence committed, and thereby 'the Craft brought to shame?'"

Pennsylvania has no forms for trials to govern subordinates. We require that justice should be wisely meted out to both sides. That a Companion charged should know definitely what he is to answer. We believe and require that the exact time and place should be specified.

Twelve Chapters; membership, 1258; a loss of 15.

John S. Tyson, Baltimore, Grand High Priest.

William A. Wentz, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS—1877.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, was held March 13th, 1877, in Boston.

With all the dignity of his office M. E. Comp. Smith B. Harrington, Grand High Priest, after being officially announced, opened the Grand Chapter.

Twenty-one Chapters represented. Only business of a local nature transacted.

At the Quarterly Convocation held June 12th, 1877, M. E. Smith B. Harrington, Grand High Priest, presided.

A report was received from a Committee on the Merging of the Council Degrees, and was adopted, as follows:

"IN GRAND CHAPTER, June 12th, 1877.

"The Committee to whom was referred the several Communications in regard to connecting the degrees in Cryptic

Masonry with those of the Capitular Rite, including that from Mississippi, have conversed with many of the Companions of both grades, they have also considered the various opinions expressed upon the subject, and while they feel the utmost kindness towards all jurisdictions interested in the matter, and earnestly hope that each may find the wisest way of disposing of it, beg leave to report that it is inexpedient for the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, at present, at least, to make any recommendations in reference thereto, or to make any change in the practice and government of these Bodies."

Another Quarterly was held September 11th. Only local business.

The Annual Convocation was held in Boston, December 11th, 1877.

The day was devoted to an exemplification of the Work and Lectures of the several degrees by the Grand Lecturer.

Fifty-three Chapters represented.

In his Annual Address the Grand High Priest speaks plainly to those who introduce innovations into Masonry :

"There are occasionally some officers who find a particular piece of ritual used in some other jurisdiction or *rite*, and thinking it very effective, conclude to use it in their Chapters. The effect of this is wholly bad. This Grand Chapter has a ritual of its own, which it annually exemplifies, and if the H. P. or any other officer in any Chapter can add anything to it, or substitute for any portion of it something that may please his fancy, the High Priest or any officer in any other Chapter may do the same thing. This right once conceded there is no stopping place, and will end in utter confusion, so that a Companion going to another Chapter in the same jurisdiction could not pass a satisfactory examination. While this tendency to add to the ritual has not been at all common in recent years, still such cases have come to my notice, and I mention it here so that others who have seen this done may not, through thoughtlessness, be led to follow a bad example."

He recommends the *Liberal Freemason*, published by P. G. H. Priest, Alfred F. Chapman, to the favor of the Craft.

The following, in relation to the Grand Orient of France, was adopted :

“ WHEREAS, a belief in God, as the Supreme Architect of the Universe, has been regarded in all time past as a necessary qualification in candidates for the Degrees in Freemasonry, without any further reference to religious dogmas or creeds,—and, *whereas*, the Grand Orient of France has eliminated this fundamental principle in Freemasonry, and has altered its Constitution to the following tenor:

“ ‘ It holds as principles—absolute freedom of conscience and human solidarity,’ and

“ ‘ It considers liberty of conscience as a right belonging to every man and excludes no one for his creed,’ and has declared that for its device it has ‘ Liberty, Equality, Fraternity,’

“ Be it therefore by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts,

“ *Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter considers a belief in God to be an absolute principle in Freemasonry, and equally pre-requisite in all candidates for the Degrees conferred therein; and that it cannot consent to any weakening of this Ancient Regulation, nor to any concession to Atheism, however plausible it may be made to appear.

“ *Resolved*, That as the Grand Orient of France has thus violated the first duty of a Mason, and yet claims to have jurisdiction of the Degrees from the first to the eighteenth and upwards, this Grand Chapter declines to hold any Masonic intercourse with that Body, or with any organizations or Masons of its obedience; and all Subordinates and Companions of obedience to this Grand Chapter are hereby ordered to observe with equal fidelity the terms of this resolution.”

The Officers for the ensuing year were elected.

A stated Convocation was held December 27, 1877, at which the Grand Officers were installed.

Comp. John W. Dadmun presents a very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of 41 Grand Bodies. Pennsylvania, for 1876, included. He speaks of us kindly, as follows:

“ Pennsylvania, like Massachusetts, holds her Quarterly Convocations regularly, and the transactions are neatly recorded in the volume before us. At the Annual Convocation the Grand High Priest delivered an excellent address, showing that he had labored diligently to meet the responsi-

bilities of his office, and carry out that thorough system of visitations which they had adopted and proved for many years.

“ We have made these quotations to show that our Pennsylvania Companions do not put their light under a bushel, but on the candlestick. Comp. Meyer says, they ‘ publish all they do.’ What more can any Grand Chapter do? The fact is, all our Proceedings are necessarily barren, aside from the Reports on Correspondence. To be sure, occasionally a Grand High Priest will branch off from the business character of his address, and give us some general information. Ordinarily, however, most of the addresses are devoted to business—dry facts and figures.”

Sixty-eight Chapters ; membership 9237 ; a loss of 43.

Smith B. Harrington, Medford, Grand High Priest.

Zeph. H. Thomas, Jr., 44 Hanover street, Boston, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN—1878.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter was held in Detroit, January 15th, 1878, M. E. Comp. Oliver L. Spaulding, Grand High Priest.

One hundred Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports that in 1850 there were three Chapters and eighty Companions in Michigan, and now there are one hundred and two Chapters and nearly eight thousand members—a good showing.

We note the following decisions :

“ *1st Question*—A Brother applies for the Chapter Degrees, and is elected, but before receiving a Degree is stopped by objection. He afterwards removes to the territorial jurisdiction of another Chapter ; petitions that Chapter ; is elected, and receives two Degrees, when a member of the former Chapter objects to his advancement. Is he effectually stopped, and is the objector obliged to sustain his objection by charges ?

“ *Answer*—The objection in the last instance did not avail to stop him. But he had become the material of the first Chapter in submitting himself to its personal jurisdiction

by petition, and no other Chapter could gain jurisdiction over him, no matter what his residence, till this personal jurisdiction was released. Thus far, the second Chapter has been acting without authority, and the facts having now come to the knowledge of the H. P., it is his duty to refrain from conferring the remaining Degrees. It is competent for the first Chapter to release its jurisdiction, when the other Chapter can complete its work, notwithstanding the objections of an outside Companion. Subsequently anticipating a release of jurisdiction, which, however, was not granted, and the objection being withdrawn, the second Chapter conferred the remaining Degrees.

"This gave rise to the three following questions:

"*2d Question*—Did the withdrawal of the objection give the second Chapter jurisdiction?

"*Answer*—No.

"*3d Question*—Could the second Chapter get jurisdiction without official action of the first?

"*Answer*—No.

"*4th Question*—Is the Brother a R. A. M. in good standing? If so, to which Chapter does he belong?

"*Answer*—He is a R. A. M., belonging to the Chapter conferring the Degrees, if he has signed its By-Laws. If the Chapter violated the law in the premises, it does not effect his standing. If, however, he obtained the Degrees by fraud, this would be a proper subject for inquiry upon charges and specifications preferred against him, and trial had, as for any other Masonic offence.

"*5th Question*—A Master Mason, in good standing, applies for the Chapter Degrees. Since being made a Mason, he has lost one of his legs, below the knee, but has a cork leg, with which he gets about as readily as most people, and continues his business as railroad engineer, without difficulty. Does the loss of his leg disqualify him from receiving the Chapter Degrees?

"*Answer*—Yes. It is true he is a Master Mason, but he could not now be made one. He cannot be made a R. A. M. if there are insuperable objections to his being made a M. M., were he not already one. He is a Craftsman worn out in the service, entitled to all the benefits and honors of the rank to which he has attained, but cannot be advanced to higher duties and responsibilities, when he has become incapacitated for the performance of those already imposed upon him."

And now the Royal Arch Masons of Michigan want a Band.

*“7th Question—*At our last regular Convocation, a motion was made to donate from our Chapter funds twenty-five dollars (\$25) to a cornet band, to assist them in procuring uniforms; and carried by a vote of 23 to 2. The question has been raised as to the legality of this donation, as it is claimed the Chapter has no right to donate money to any but a Masonic organization. Will you please give us your opinion, and also inform us if the Chapter can hire the band and pay them in advance?

*“Answer—*I find no warrant for such an application of the funds of the Chapter. They are for Masonic purposes, and should be sacredly held as such. The Chapter has as much right to donate money to a railroad company or a horse association, as to the proposed object. It is, of course, competent to pay the band for services rendered on Masonic occasions, but I doubt the propriety of paying in advance for possible future services. It is quite time enough to pay when the services have been actually rendered.”

Suspension in a Lodge is suspension in a Chapter in Michigan.

*“9th Question—*A Companion was indefinitely suspended by his Lodge, for non-payment of dues, and has been so treated in the Chapter. He now pays his dues and claims to be a member, in good standing, though no action has been taken by the Lodge. Shall we recognize him in the Chapter?

*“Answer—*You will recognize no one as a member of your Chapter, in good standing, while under suspension in his Lodge. His mere payment of dues is not sufficient to reinstate him. It requires, in addition, affirmative action of his Lodge.”

On the ballot and qualifications he speaks truly:

“The tendency of late has been rather to make new than to take care of old Chapters. Companions, in their zeal, have sought Chapters that soon became straitened both in good material and in money. Under such circumstances, the temptation is great, and I fear, not always resisted, of taking indifferent material to keep out of debt. Such material will ruin a Chapter, and debt is death to Chapters as well as Churches.

“It was demonstrated, some thousands of years ago, that brick could not be made without straw; and there is excellent authority that men do not gather grapes of thorns, nor figs of thistles. Do no work, unless good work. By all means surrender your Charter, before running in debt or taking in bad men. Do not let your necessities nor your extremities induce the lowering of the standard of Royal Arch Masonry.

“Use the black ball on all proper occasions. It has been sometimes abused, to keep good men out; I fear, oftener to get bad men in. In saying this, I simply urge a just and conscientious use of it.

“The candidate should be well known—his character and fitness established. In a word, he should be a *man* to receive your suffrages—not perfect; for then he would be more than man; but he should have positive good qualities. He should be a man striving to go up; not a man actively or passively going down. If a man so commend himself, take him, be he rich or poor, high or low. Even though you and he may have personal differences, put them behind you. Reject no man because you and he do not agree. He may be right and you wrong. If you believe he would make a good Mason, you have no right to consult your little preferences or petty dislikes. Conquer yourself. You will be a better man and a better Mason. Remember that he who does this is greater than he who takes a city.

“Again, don’t seek members. If Masonry is worth while, it will attract good men. It always has. Members will come fast enough. It is a voluntary institution—does not want and will not tolerate proselytism. Neither engage in public or private discussion in defence of Masonry. It has taken care of itself so far, and will continue to do so, so long as Masons are true to the great underlying principles of the Order. If they lose sight of these Landmarks and let go of their time-honored wise conservatism, they are at once without chart or compass, liable to shipwreck, or to make a harbor among an unfriendly people—wreckers who will hasten to plunder and destroy.

“There are among us some who seek to make innovations in the body of Masonry. Have nothing to do with them, except to get rid of them. Young America must keep his hands off our religion and Masonry.”

Comp. Wm. P. Innes reports as usual on Foreign Cor-

respondence. He reviews the Proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1876, included.

Thanks for kind words for our Grand Chapter and ourselves.

Ninety-nine Chapters ; 7385 membership ; a gain of 119.

Charles J. Kruger, Grand Rapids, Grand High Priest.

William P. Innes, Grand Rapids, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA—1877.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota was held in St. Paul, October 8, 1878, Comp. Richard J. Marvin, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding.

Twenty-one Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is most interesting for the care in preparation and the valuable information given regarding the teachings of Royal Arch Masonry.

The death of P. G. H. Priest, J. H. McKenny, was announced.

Comp. McKenny was born in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. He was much beloved, not only by the Craft, the editorial profession, but by the general public.

The Proceedings are mostly of local interest.

Prior to the election for Grand Officers, the Grand Chapter goes into a Convention and elects its officers, which election is then reported to the Grand Chapter, and is by them confirmed. Suppose the Grand Chapter should not confirm the action of the Convention—what then?

The Grand Secretary, Comp. A. T. C. Pierson, reported on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1877, receiving a short notice.

Thirty-three Chapters ; with a membership of 1756 ; gain of 52.

E. A. Hotchkiss, Winnebago City, Grand High Priest.

A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI—1878.

The Thirty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Missouri was held in St. Louis, October 10th, 1878, M. E. Comp. Wm. R. Stubblefield, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Fifty-three Chapters represented.

To a number of applications for decisions he made the following model reply :

“Read the Constitution, Rules and Regulations *more*, and you will have *fewer* questions to ask.”

Among his decisions were the following :

“3. *Statement.* At a regular Convocation of ——— Chapter, I, as High Priest, ordered a summons to be issued to all the members to attend our next meeting. The summons was issued and properly served. The time arrived for the regular Convocation, the roll was called and there appeared to be one absentee. I ordered the Secretary to summon him to be present at next Convocation to show cause why he disobeyed former summons. The summons was served—he appeared. When asked for his excuse, he said he would have obeyed first summons, but he forgot it. A Companion moved that the excuse be received. High Priest refused to entertain the motion, because he deemed the excuse insufficient. He then asked my decision.

“*Decision.* You should have entertained the motion. As High Priest you have a right to summon the members at any time, and for any purpose you see fit (but great care should be used in exercising that prerogative). After having ordered a summons and it has been served on a Companion, and he knows that on account of sickness or some other equally good cause, he cannot be present, and asks you to excuse him, you have a perfect right to do so. If he makes no such excuse to you, but appears before the Chapter and makes his statements, then these statements become the property of the Chapter, and they (the members of the Chapter) can dispose of them as they see fit. After making this decision, I ordered the High Priest to entertain the motion.”

The following fraternal resolution was adopted :

“*Resolved,* As a standing regulation by this Grand Chapter, that when a Companion Royal Arch Mason, hailing

from another Grand Jurisdiction, affiliates with a constituent Chapter in this State, he brings with him, as of right, all the official honors, rights and privileges to which he would be entitled had the same been conferred upon him in this jurisdiction; and that such official honors, rights and privileges be, and are, hereby fully acknowledged and recognized and respected by both the constituent Chapters in this State, and by this Grand Body."

Action was taken on the merging of the Cryptic and Capitular Degrees:

"*Resolved*, FIRST. That by and with the consent of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Missouri, when obtained, the Degrees of Royal and Select Master be received under the charge and control of the Grand Chapter.

"SECOND. That the Degrees of Royal and Select Master be conferred upon all who are Royal Arch Masons at the date of the consummation of this plan, without charge.

"THIRD. That a committee of three be appointed by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, to act in conjunction with a similar committee to be appointed by the Grand Council to carry these recommendations into effect, and to definitely settle all the preliminaries for the transfer of the Degrees of the Council to the Chapter.

"FOURTH. The arrangements entered into by this joint committee, when approved by the Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, and the M. I. Grand Master of the Grand Council, and published to the several Chapters and Councils, shall be the law of this jurisdiction until otherwise ordered."

Comp. J. W. Luke, Grand Secretary, furnishes report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of 41 Grand Chapters. Pennsylvania, for 1877, included.

Eighty-nine Chapters; membership 4217; a loss of 63.

Noah M. Givan, Harrisonville, Grand High Priest.

William H. Mayo, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI—1878.

The Thirtieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi was held in Grenada, February 5th, 1878, R. E. Comp. E. George De Lap, Deputy (Acting) Grand High Priest, presiding.

Forty-three Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest was read by the Grand Secretary.

Of the General Grand Chapter he says :

“Our General Grand Chapter has held its Triennial Assemblage. Its attendance was large, and its members possessed of more than ordinary ability. So much of sound philosophy obtained, that the Grand Body respected the wisdom of not legislating too much. It virtually decided nothing—enacted nothing—postponed everything.”

As the Grand Chapter of Mississippi was one of the first to merge the Council Degrees, we give their proposed manner of working :

“1. All Councils of Royal and Select Masters cease to exist.

“2. The Degrees of “Royal Master” and “Select Master” will hereafter be conferred, or communicated, in the several Royal Arch Chapters and upon *Royal Arch Masons* only, and as follows: The Chapters being opened in the Royal Arch Degree, a Council of Royal and Select Master will then be opened in these Degrees respectively. After completing its work, the Council will be closed with all due forms and ceremonies, and the business of the Chapter resumed, or closed, as occasion may require, in the Royal Arch Degree.

“3. Royal Arch Masons who have not received the Degrees of Royal and Select Master may have them conferred, or communicated, without fee, in open Council. But in all cases the Chapter must be regularly convened and a Council formally opened.

“4. Companions hereafter receiving the Royal Arch Chapter Degree, will be advanced to the Royal Master’s and afterwards to the Select Master’s Degree—the Chapter being first opened and then the Council, as before directed.

“5. In Chapters where there are not a sufficient number of Royal and Select Masters, and when a sufficient number cannot conveniently be assembled from neighboring Chapters to complete the Council, the Degrees of Royal and Select Master may be communicated by any competent Companion to a sufficient number of Companions of the Royal Arch, to open a Council, preferably to the officers of the Chapter, if there be any such who have not received

these degrees. The intention being to *communicate the degrees only in cases of absolute necessity*, it being expected that the officers of each Chapter will, at the earliest practicable date, qualify themselves *to work* the Council Degrees, the same as the degrees of the Chapter are required to be worked ; and after they have so qualified themselves, in no case will the Council Degrees be communicated.

“ 6. It is recommended that the T. I. M. of each Council cause its members to assemble at the earliest convenient day, and provide for the disposition of its property and effects, by transferring the same to the Chapter within whose jurisdiction the Council has hitherto been held, and where a preponderance of its members hold their membership. In cases where the membership is divided between two or more Chapters, it is suggested that the property be divided between them or donated to the Chapter having the least ability to provide itself with the necessary paraphernalia of the Council Degrees. In cases where Councils are in debt, the assets should be *sold* to some Chapter, and the proceeds applied to settlement of outstanding obligations. It is particularly to be hoped that the cause of Masonry will not be disgraced by the neglect or failure of any Council to provide for the payment of its debts. A small contribution from its members will generally suffice to enable the poorest Council to dissolve honorably, and without leaving a stain upon the Masonic name and character. The surplus funds of Councils may be disposed of at their pleasure, but dues to the Grand Council must, in all cases, be paid, when the Councils have the ability to do so.’

“ ‘Can Royal Arch Masons receive the Council Degrees now, or must they await the approval by the General Grand Chapter of the recent action of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of this State by which the latter body is merged into the former?’

“ ‘I answer, that they *can* not only receive the Degrees *now*, but that they *must* do so, and that it is the duty of the High Priest to put all Companions, Royal Arch Masons who are not Royal and Select Masters, in possession of the last named Degrees at once, or as soon as practicable. The mode and manner of conferring these degrees will be in accordance with the joint edict of the M. Ill. Grand Master and the M. E. Grand High Priest, issued from your office on the 24th of February, ultimo. The General Grand Chapter has nothing whatever to do with the matter, the request made

of that Grand Body being for authority to confer the Royal and Select Degrees as *part* of the Royal Arch, the former before the Royal Arch, and the latter after it. In other words, the "action of merger" is final and conclusive. All Subordinate Councils ceased to exist, and the Royal and Select Degrees are the property of the Chapters—side degrees, if you will, but, nevertheless, as essential to be conferred as the Mark, Royal Arch, or other degrees of that branch of Masonry. For these, as well as other reasons, not necessary to be repeated, I request that the M. E. High Priests of the several Chapters will at once take charge of the Degrees of Royal and Select Master, and confer the same upon all members of their Chapters who have not received them. High Priests not already in possession of the Council work will be able to obtain it through Comp. R. P. Bowen, Grand Lecturer, or under the provisions of the Edict.' "

Is this just and honorable, or Masonic, to have charged a fee for conferring these degrees in the Council, and then conferring them without fee in the Chapter upon every Companion, notwithstanding he may have been rejected as a candidate for these degrees in the Council?

Is not this the beginning of a scheme to make the Council Degrees pre-requisites for advancement into the Commandery?

In view of the financial condition of the Grand Chapter, the report of Foreign Correspondence was dispensed with.

It is proposed to pay a Grand Lecturer a salary of a per capita tax of fifty cents annually on each Royal Arch Mason.

Seventy-three Chapters; membership of 1,930; a loss of 97.

John S. Jones, Cold Water, Grand High Priest.

John L. Power, Jackson, Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA—1877.

The Eleventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska was held in Omaha, December 19th, 1877, M. E. Comp. Edwin F. Warren, Grand High Priest, presiding.

A handsome steel-plate engraving of Comp. Warren adorns the Proceedings.

Twelve Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports that he had issued dispensation for the election of the High Priests of two Chapters, they having removed permanently from the jurisdiction.

This is contrary to all Masonic law, as in the absence of the High Priest the King and Scribe succeed to his office, respectively. It is an inherent right, which a Grand High Priest bound to guard sacredly and protect against interfering with.

A curious case which exhibits an outrage upon Masonic Landmarks was submitted:

“In the spring I received a communication in the nature of an appeal from the decision of Comp. Richardson, High Priest of Keystone Chapter, No. 2, of Nebraska City, refusing to receive the petition of Brother Samuel Bacon, a Master Mason in good standing, and a member of Western Star Lodge, No. 2, of Nebraska. Brother Bacon is a blind man, and was at the time superintendent of the Blind Asylum, located at Nebraska City; he is a man of unimpeachable character, of unusual intelligence and learning. He has been blind *since he was about ten years of age*, receiving his degrees in an Iowa Lodge, with the sanction of some of our most conspicuous Masonic jurists. My own judgment was that he was ineligible, and that the conferring upon him of the Degrees of Blue Masonry did not cure his defect, though I had no doubt that Brother Bacon would have received as much actual light, and as true an insight into the symbolism of the degrees, as many of those who had gone that way before him, and would have been pleased to welcome him within the veils.

“I referred the matter to M. E. Comp. E. H. English, General Grand High Priest, and to M. E. Comp. Josiah H. Drummond, P. G. G. H. P., and receiving from those eminent Masons contradictory opinions upon the case, I no longer wondered that I myself had hesitated in coming to a decision. The General Grand High Priest, however, having ruled him ineligible, I sustained the decision of the High Priest of the Chapter, and the petition stood rejected.

“This question coming up before the General Grand Chap-

ter at its Convocation at Buffalo, last summer, upon the report of the G. G. H. P., his decision of the question was, without debate, affirmed.

“It is, of course, profitless to speculate how it was that Brother Bacon received, or could receive, the Master Mason Degree; that he has received it I know, as he is a member of the Lodge over which I preside; but were it not that it is desirable to secure uniformity in our rules and regulations; were it not that the maxim *stare decisis* should govern here as well as in courts of law, I should have felt inclined to let Brother Bacon’s petition be received upon general principles. Comp. Drummond wrote me as follows, and in his views I concur:

“‘I know of no law (save local regulations in a few jurisdictions) in reference to the *physical qualifications* of candidates for Royal Arch Masonry. I have no doubt that in the olden time the idea of such a law was never considered, or if it was, the conclusion was that there was no need of one, inasmuch as only Master Masons (who had clearly passed the test) could be candidates.

“‘With this understanding of the law, my views have been *very liberal* toward candidates for the Chapter; and I have been inclined to receive any Master Mason. I had the question presented to me when I was G. H. P., whether a Master Mason who had lost a leg, but walked with an artificial one without a cane, could be admitted, and I replied that I knew of no law against it. I should make the same reply in the case you put, and I say frankly that if I were a member of the Chapter, I should vote to admit him.’”

We would advise all the lame, the halt, the blind and all who are not physically able to do the work of Masonry, to go West, as we are led to believe from the above that the doors of some Masonic Lodges have been thrown wide open by Masonic perjurers. There is no better word to describe our meaning. We have heard of the making of some who were so physically ineligible for Masonic rites as not to be able to bend their knees to the Mason’s God, and have wondered what would happen next. Now the blind have been led by a way that they knew not, and *should not* know. Our sympathies are strongly in favor of those who are physically imperfect, and we would do what we could to make the world a pleasure for them, but the laws of Masonry forbid

that they should be made Masons. Under the Mosaic law, no one was allowed to minister at the altar, unless he was without blemish. A Mason gifted with five or even less senses could not help knowing that he was perjuring himself by assisting at the making of this blind Brother. The particular reasons that a blind Master Mason should be advanced, or what claims he has, we cannot understand; he may conceive with his heart, but with his eyes he can never behold the beauties of Masonry.

Of the Cryptic Degrees he says :

“My own judgment upon this important subject is that, in view of the refusal of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templars to make the Degrees of Cryptic Masonry a prerequisite to Knighthood, it would be eminently proper for the several Grand Chapters to assume jurisdiction of those Degrees, *provided* the Grand Councils of such jurisdictions should first make the request. Otherwise, in many States, it seems to me from observation and correspondence, it is but a question of time when these Degrees, beautiful and instructive as they are, will cease to be conferred by any recognized authority. Surely their being conferred in a Chapter would work no harm to the Chapter; the only thing to be guarded and provided against would be the danger that those who thus received the Degree might, in some jurisdictions, be considered ‘*clandestine*.’”

You have used the proper word; Comp. Warren. *Clandestine* Cryptic Masons.

The following question in regard to voting was asked :

“How many votes is a Companion entitled to who is a Past High Priest, a Past Deputy Grand High Priest, a Past Grand High Priest, and also a life member of this Grand Chapter ?

“On which query the Grand High Priest made the following decision :

“The Companion in the case supposed will be entitled to cast one vote as Past High Priest, one vote as Past Grand High Priest, and one vote as a life member of this Grand Chapter. He is entitled to one vote in virtue of the highest official position he has held through the suffrages of his Companions in this Grand Chapter, and one by virtue of his

office as Past High Priest, an honor not conferred by this body.

"In no event, however, is he entitled to cast more than three votes."

With us he is only entitled to *one* vote.

No report on Correspondence, and no reports from Grand Representatives.

The able report, last year, of M. E. Comp. Thomas R. Patton, our Grand Treasurer, Grand Representative of Nebraska, has, we are pleased to see, been largely quoted by several sister Grand Chapters.

Fifteen Chapters; membership, 683; a gain of 63.

Edwin F. Warren, Nebraska City, Grand High Priest.

William R. Bowen, Omaha, Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1878.

The Sixtieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire was held in Concord, May 14th, 1878, Comp. John J. Bell, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding.

Eighteen Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest announced the death of Past Grand High Priest, and Grand Secretary, John Atherton Harris, whose fame as a wise and accomplished Mason was known throughout this country.

The deaths of P. G. H. Priest, Jonas Livingstone, and P. G. Scribe, Lewis Woodman, were also announced.

He had refused a warrant for a new Chapter, for want of territory to work in and not having a sufficient number of competent Companions for officers.

He decided that expulsion or suspension from *Lodge membership* does not necessarily affect the Companion's standing in the Chapter. Expulsion or suspension *from the rights of Masonry* necessarily deprives him of all standing in the Chapter, as he is no longer a Mason, and is, *quoad Masonry*, in all its forms and branches dead.

We think either expulsion or suspension from Lodge membership and the rights of Masonry is virtually the

same thing—Masonic death. It would be rather novel to sit in the Chapter with a Companion who has been kicked out of his Lodge.

Comp. Albert S. Wait reported on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of thirty-five Grand Chapters; Pennsylvania not included.

Comp. John J. Bell, Exeter, M. E. Grand High Priest.

George P. Cleaves, Concord, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY—1878.

The Twenty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey was held in Trenton, September 11, 1878.

The Grand Chapter was opened by Comp. Martin M. Drohan, Grand High Priest.

Thirty Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest recommends that some of the degrees be worked by the Grand Officers at least once in each year, at some convenient place, so that the greater part of the Companions might be able to attend and witness the same.

He speaks his mind about the ungentlemanly treatment of candidates in the Royal Arch :

“I would further recommend, at this time, as I have always done, when visiting the different Chapters, that all frivolity and nonsense be left out in doing the work, and that it be done in an orderly and impressive manner, and particularly to discountenance that senseless, not to say inhuman, practice which so mars the beauty and sublimity of the Royal Arch Degree. Our standard work does not teach it, decency forbids it, cultivated tastes abhor it, and, to gentlemen, it is disgusting. The candidate expects to be exalted to the sublime—let him not be degraded to the ridiculous; and, as one has beautifully expressed it, in teaching the lesson of humility, the candidate should never be reduced to the reptile’s vile crawling—to stoop low, it is not necessary to degrade. Every High Priest of a Chapter should be careful and rebuke every attempt to trifle with a candidate.”

Comp. Drohan recommends greater care in the issuing of summonses, and that no unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason be allowed to visit a Chapter in his jurisdiction more than once as an unaffiliate; also, that candidates give the lectures of each degree, in open Chapter, previous to advancement.

He further recommends that the Chapters have printed, with their By-laws, the Constitution, etc., of the Grand Chapter.

He reports that Grand High Priest Potter had granted permission to Chapters in New Jersey to exalt residents of Pennsylvania; and that he had granted permission, through Grand High Priest Potter, to Chapter No. 250, of Philadelphia to receive the petition of Bro. George J. Harris, a member of Melita Lodge, No. 295, but a resident of New Jersey.

He decided :

“When a Chapter located in a township makes application to one of a number of city Chapters holding concurrent jurisdiction, for permission to receive and act upon the petition of a Brother residing in such city, and said Chapter refuses to grant permission, its action is final, and the township Chapter has no right to apply for such permission to either of the remaining city Chapters.”

The Constitution was amended, admitting as members of the Grand Chapter all Past High Priests.

As soon as this amendment was adopted, 13 Past High Priests were received and welcomed by speech and song.

A motion was made that *suspension should not mean suspension*, when the Committee on Constitutions, to whom the matter was referred, reported as follows, which was adopted :

“The Committee on Constitutions, to which has been referred the resolution ‘That suspension in the Blue Lodge shall not act as a suspension in the Chapter, unless it shall be for other causes than for non-payment of dues,’ reports as follows: This is a subject that does not require any consideration, because the subject-matter of the resolution is totally at variance with the principles of Masonry, the usage of the Fraternity, and all good policy. It is impossi-

ble to make 'suspension' a qualified sentence. If suspension means anything, it means suspension from membership and all the rights of Masonry, during the term of said sentence.

"The committee recommends that the Grand Chapter once for all stamp with its unequivocal rejection any attempt to establish so monstrous a doctrine."

A suitable jewel was ordered to be presented to the retiring Grand High Priest.

We note that the Grand Treasurer of Grand Chapter resides in Philadelphia. We were taught that absence from the jurisdiction vacates the office.

We regret to learn that that veteran in Masonry, our Companion, Thomas J. Corson, M. D., has been seriously ill. He is blessed in having with him, as his assistant, his daughter. May she be able to soothe the pain and anguish of the sick-bed. God grant that he may soon rise; but if it should be otherwise ordered, may her gentle hands be his stay until the dark stream be passed—for never father loved daughter more, and their love is passing strange.

Comp. Corson furnishes the report on Correspondence, reviewing, in his usual able manner, the Proceedings of forty-four Grand Chapters. Pennsylvania, for 1877, receives a one-page notice. He says that our "Proceedings are barren of interest," complains that, "as there are one hundred Chapters in Pennsylvania, only twenty are represented," and that "there seems to be a dullness, an apathy, a want of life and active vitality among the Royal Craft of our neighbor to the westward; but we are entirely ignorant of the cause thereof."

The fact is, Companion Corson, Pennsylvania is a trifle larger State than New Jersey, and it requires a greater sacrifice of time and comfort to attend our annual meetings than it does yours. Then, again, our Representatives are not paid for attending—and that makes a difference.

Thirty-five Chapters; membership, 2818; a loss of 38.

George H. Jones, Phillipsburg, Grand High Priest.

Thomas J. Corson, Trenton, M. D., Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK—1878.

The Eighty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New York was held in Albany, February 5th, 1878, M. E. Comp. George Van Vliet, Grand High Priest, presiding.

One hundred and eighty-eight Chapters represented.

Among the decisions of the Grand High Priest we find the following:

“In answer to the question as to whether a Companion could be suspended for the non-payment of an assessment of three dollars, in addition to arrearage for one year’s dues amounting to two dollars, under By-Laws which read as follows: ‘Any member whose dues shall remain unpaid for more than two years shall be declared suspended from the Chapter, and a member so suspended shall, as a penalty for such remissness, be restored to membership only on payment of his dues to the date of his restoration,’ I decided that in accordance with such By-Law a Companion cannot be suspended, whose indebtedness amounts to *five* dollars, by the non-payment of one year’s annual dues of *two* dollars, together with an assessment of *three* dollars.

The question of the right of assessment is here not touched. It is one that is often mooted at present, and there are opinions pro and con in regard thereto.

An assessment should be made only for Masonic purposes, and only in extreme necessity, such as to save the Masonic standing of the Chapter. A majority of the members present at a meeting, due notice being given, could properly levy an assessment to pay the Grand Chapter dues or the rent of the Hall. In this assessment all should be included, life members and those who pay their dues from year to year.

He also decided, and very properly:

“In answer to the question, as to whether it was in order to take an informal ballot at the annual election of officers, where a motion to that effect was made, I decided, that a motion to take an informal ballot was out of order, and as a matter of course the *result* of such a motion would be irregular, being fully convinced that all action taken in a Ma-

sonic body should be *formal*, and that all informalities are against the principles we are taught to inculcate.”

The Grand High Priest feelingly alludes to the death of Comp. John O. Cole, who for forty-two years served as Grand Secretary.

A new warrant was granted to a Chapter in place of the original, rendered valueless by the ravages of mice.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, appointing a Grand Lecturer. The law is as follows:

“SECTION 44. The Grand High Priest may annually appoint a discreet and well-informed Royal Arch Mason, who shall have been anointed a High Priest, as Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be, when required by any Chapter, to visit and instruct its members in the work and lectures of the several degrees, and such Chapter shall pay a reasonable compensation therefor. It shall also be his duty to attend the Annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter, and to exemplify before it, or a committee thereof, some portion or all of the standard work and lectures of the Grand Chapter—of which he shall be the custodian, subject to the direction of the Grand Council. He shall be a member of the Grand Chapter, while holding said office, and shall be entitled to the pay specified in Section 12. Additional compensation (not exceeding five hundred dollars annually) may, in the discretion of the Grand Chapter, be paid the Grand Lecturer. He may also authorize, by a commission in writing, any discreet and well-informed Companion to instruct any Chapter or Chapters applying for such service, in the standard work and lectures of this Grand Chapter, the expense thereof to be borne by such Chapters.”

The railroad fare and four dollars per day for travel and attendance is paid to the Representatives of Subordinate Chapters.

Comp. Darius A. Ogden presents the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-three Grand Chapters, etc., Pennsylvania, for 1876, included.

Under Pennsylvania he says:

“At the first Quarterly Convocation this Grand Chapter was opened ‘in ancient and ample form, at six o’clock and fifteen minutes, P. M., in Masonic Temple, Philadelphia,

February 3d, 1876.' And a magnificent Temple it is; in architectural proportions and beauty it has no superior among the public buildings of this country, and it is an honor to the Royal Craft of the Keystone State, and will stand, we trust, for long years, a monument reflecting in simple beauty the enduring qualities of Freemasonry in that great State as elsewhere throughout the world."

In regard to their custom of conferring the Order of High Priesthood, Comp. Ogden is a little too excitable. He should be careful what he writes.

He says:

"New York receives notice. Comp. Meyer evidently has got befogged as to the practice of this Grand Chapter in regard to the Order of High Priesthood and the proceedings in relation thereto. We don't understand why this statement is made: 'Here were the representatives of one hundred and thirty-five Chapters excluded from the Grand Chapter.' The whole is a fiction; the simple truth is that Comp. Meyer did not know what he was talking about. No Grand Chapter was in session; nobody was excluded; a Council of High Priests was opened, and all anointed High Priests, who wished, attended, and the order of High Priesthood was conferred on fifty-five elected High Priests; the Grand High Priest, assisted by Present and Past Grand Officers, officiated in the interesting ceremonies, and all was done in order."

We mean exactly what we said, and what your Proceedings say this year. In our report, in question, we stated distinctly that your Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, and then the Order conferred.

We quote from your report, this year, page 25:

"The Grand High Priest gave notice that a Council of High Priests would be convened at 3 o'clock this afternoon, pursuant to a regulation of the Grand Chapter, for the purpose of conferring the order of High Priesthood on duly qualified Companions.

"The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment until 10 o'clock to-morrow (Wednesday) morning.

"TUESDAY, THREE O'CLOCK P. M.

"Pursuant to a regulation of the Grand Chapter, a Council of High Priests was opened in due form, the Grand High Priest presiding.

"M. E. George Van Vliet, Grand High Priest, with the assistance of the Grand and Past Grand Officers present, then conferred the order of High Priesthood on the following named Companions, each of whom was anointed, consecrated, and solemnly set apart to the office of High Priest in ample form.

"At the conclusion of the ceremonies, the Council of High Priests was closed in due form.

"The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor.

"*Present*: M. E. George Van Vliet, Grand High Priest, Officers, Permanent Members and Representatives, as before.

"Prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain.

"The minutes of the Proceedings of yesterday morning's session, and the *record relating to the conferring of the Order of High Priesthood were read and approved.*" Italics ours.

Is this not part of your Grand Chapter Proceedings? The Grand High Priest presides, &c., and then you submit the Proceedings of your exclusive meeting of High Priests to your Grand Chapter, and they are approved by the Grand Chapter. Why read the record relating to the Order of High Priesthood, to the Grand Chapter for their approval? Are they competent to vote on the subject? This does not look like *fiction*, or that we did not know what we *were talking* about.

We had no fault to find with New York, nor do we now, for the manner of conferring the Order of High Priesthood. We merely wrote as we did—and it was the TRUTH—to call the attention of other Grand Chapters, who were complaining about the manner of our installing our Grand High Priest, in requesting all who had not received the Order of High Priesthood to retire. The only difference between yourself and ourselves is, you open a Council of High Priests; and we have our Chapters or Grand Chapter opened. You call off for refreshments; we do what we have

to do while at labor. You submit your proceedings to your Grand Chapter, *very many* members of which were not permitted to be present, for approval, and we do not.

Comp. Rev. James B. Murray, D. D., Grand Chaplain, delivered an able address on "Moses." We would like to give it entire, but have not space enough allowed us. We quote several passages:

"During his desert wanderings Moses had not always maintained his character of disinterestedness, which we sometimes wrongly call his meekness. He was disingenuous if he was not meek. Like most great men he failed in that very thing in which he was really strong. And for staining his character by murmuring he was not allowed to enter the Land of Promise, though he was allowed to see its glories. His life was now, after long years of toil, drawing to a close; and as he was to transmit the completion of his work to other hands, he appoints Joshua in his place, and inducts him into his great office before the assembled congregation. After this he pronounces one prophecy, setting it to the number and rhythm of song; one blessing taking the brilliant form of prophecy, rising on from step to step in its glory; and then the Lawgiver passed on to gaze on that land he could not enter, and to stand in the presence of that Jehovah who had held his life with its marvel and greatness in the hollow of his hand.

"And now comes his death. Forty years amid the grandeur of Egypt, saturated with the very spirit of philosophy and science; forty years amid the majesty of the hills, drinking in the sweet influences of nature, stilling the disquietudes of his soul by communion with God; then forty years of hard struggle, of earnest toil, of the painfulness and weariness of leadership, of the responsibility of rule, and then that noble life ends. He had climbed the hill in obedience and faith to give back to God the work He had given him to do. What visions, what memories must have surged in upon him with the profound volume as of the waves of the sea, as he glanced back on the closing of his one hundred and twenty years of life! His voyage on the Nile in the frail ark; his adoption as a prince in the palace of the Pharaohs; the gathering in of the wealth of an empire's literature; the visions of honor, of opportunity opening before him like the clustered aisles of a great forest; the pride of Egypt left behind him; the sea with its pathway and walls

of protecting waters; the desert with its mystery of miracle; the deep intercourse drawing him nearer and still more near to Jehovah; the burning glory of Sinai; the tables of stone bearing the commandments of God; the voice of that God sounding ever in his ears, the declaration of His infinite self-existent I Am; all must have come in upon him in marvelous force as he stood in the solitude of the mountains. Then in serene quiet, in calmness of spirit, he lays aside his mantle and lies down in the grave God had prepared for him, confined and shrouded in the mystery of the everlasting hills, which through all centuries have kept ward over the sleeping dust of the Hero, the Leader, the Poet, the Lawgiver, the Prophet of the Lord.

“Such was Moses. And now we can sum up his character, and draw some lessons or practical truths as the results of that character both for himself and his people. He was a Lawgiver, and has set up a code of laws which presents unto this day the loftiest system of morality and purest justice. The ten commandments are the basis of all laws which have the welfare of society in view. Those laws have largely influenced Roman law, and so have influenced civil law in the nations which have come after ancient Rome. Amid much that is regarded as the development of modern times, and much that is thought to be the application of science as thoroughly understood; much that is supposed to be the result of the practical uses of art; much of what is called sanitary or health laws, will be found, on examination, to be parts of the system which Moses introduced among the Hebrews as necessary to their moral life, and those regulations on which depend the health of the people.

“As a Lawgiver he has influenced all modern society, and established that pattern and model for law to which legislators must ever refer. And, as a matter of fact, an examination of the great principles of Freemasonry will be seen to be the outgrowth of the principles of the first Hebrew Lawgiver. The polity, the religion, the art and the science of Mosaism, as they were embodied in a high and refined symbolism, have penetrated the system of Masonry, illuminating and throwing into beauty its principles, and making its precepts, when carried out into action, the basis of a true, manly life. He was a representative man; a man of self-denying character, and so rising into true independence, and forming a model of that real independence which has its roots deep in the spirit of sacrifice, and thus presents the pattern life for the members of an institution which teaches morality.”

One hundred and ninety-one Chapters; membership of 17,642; a loss of 831.

David F. Day, Buffalo, Grand High Priest.

Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, Grand Secretary.

NEVADA—1878.

The Fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Nevada was held in the City of Virginia, June 10, 1878, M. E. Comp. DeWitt C. McKenney, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Three Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports Royal Arch Masonry in his jurisdiction as prosperous and healthy.

Of the railroading through the degrees he says :

“It seems to me that candidates for Chapter Degrees are rushed through, after being elected, with entirely too much speed; nothing governs their probation in each degree, except the wishes of the candidates themselves. The Lodges in this jurisdiction require a certain degree of proficiency in the Degrees taken before they are allowed to advance. I would suggest that some requirement of this character be adopted by this Grand Chapter.”

The following resolution was adopted :

“*Resolved*, That the subordinate Chapters under our jurisdiction be and they are hereby recommended not to confer any Degree in Capitular Masonry until the candidate has become proficient in all the preceding Degrees in Masonry, and especially that he be found thoroughly conversant with the first sections of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason’s Degrees, and with all the means of recognition practiced among Master Masons, to be ascertained by a committee or *otherwise*.” (Italics ours.)

That “*or otherwise*” will kill the intent of the whole resolution. It will always “*be otherwise*.” Give them a loop hole to get out of the carrying out any law, and they will soon get out.

The following is sound common sense :

“Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the interrogatory, ‘Can a Companion who holds life membership in a Grand Chapter be held responsible for an assessment levied by the Chapter in which he holds membership?’ beg leave to report that, in our opinion, such Companions are responsible for assessments the same as Companions who are not life members, and not otherwise. As to whether a subordinate Chapter has authority to levy assessments, we express no opinion at this time, as the same is not distinctly called for by the interrogatory.”

Comp. John D. Hammond presents the report on Foreign Correspondence. He reviews the Proceedings of forty Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania not of the number.

Eight Chapters ; membership, 391 ; a gain of 4.

Philip Seldner, Virginia City, Grand High Priest.

John D. Hammond, Carson, Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.—1878.

The Thirtieth Annual Convocation was held in Winston, June 4th, 1878, and was opened by M. E. Comp. Charles W. Alexander, M. E. Grand High Priest.

Thirteen Chapters represented.

The Grand Mark Lodge of England and the Grand Chapter of Quebec were recognized.

A proposition to make Past High Priests members of the Grand Chapter was unfavorably reported on.

Business mostly of a local character.

Comp. James Southgate presents the Report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-two Grand Bodies, Pennsylvania, for 1876, included.

Under the head of Pennsylvania, he says :

“The Committee on Appeals made their report and in the case of a Mason who had been expelled from his Chapter, they decided, ‘that the appeal must be sustained and the appellant be restored to his rights as a member of said Chapter as if the act of expulsion had never been decreed, but without prejudice to the right of the Chapter to such

other proceedings as they may, subject to all rights of appeal, see proper to take.' It is about the same we presume as sending the case back to the Chapter for a new trial, if the proceedings were irregular, but the above seems to us rather different from any case of the kind which has come under our observation."

Of our report that six Royal Arch Masons can work the Arch, he says :

"Six Royal Arch Masons are sufficient to open and do the work in a Chapter in Pennsylvania.' Wonder what those Companions would do with three 250 lb. candidates in the Royal Arch Degree, with only six to do the work? We can't get along very well with nine, but six would cause us to give up in despair."

Nineteen Chapters ; membership, 873 ; a loss of 13.

Charles W. Alexander, Charlotte, Grand High Priest.

Donald W. Bain, Raleigh, Grand Secretary.

OHIO.—1877.

The Sixty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, was held in Cleveland, August 29th, 1877.

M. E. Comp. Reuben C. Lemmon, Grand High Priest, presiding.

One hundred and thirty-six Chapters represented.

Among the decisions of the Grand High Priest is the following :

"Decided that a resolution of Hamilton Chapter, requiring its Treasurer to pay interest on balances in his hands as Treasurer, to be a permission to such Treasurer to use the funds of such Chapter in his private business. Hamilton Chapter could not desire its Treasurer to pay interest unless its members contemplated that he should make personal gain by the use of its moneys, and in such case the mere omission of the Treasurer to refund or pay over when required, would not constitute a Masonic offence. He should be regarded as a borrower, and the integrity of his conduct as a debtor would furnish the measure of his liability to Masonic discipline."

A most wise decision.

The Grand Chapter recommended the subordinate Chapters to hold a full insurance from fire on their respective properties.

Comp. W. L. Buechner presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of thirty-three Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1876, included.

He says :

“The moral and spiritual condition of the Companions in our neighboring jurisdiction must be improving. Three years ago it took thirteen Grand Chaplains to pray for them, now nine are only considered necessary to do it.”

Still praying for our Grand Chaplains.

He also says :

“We criticised last year the action of the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania, forbidding his subordinate Chapters to give permission to candidates to take the degrees in an adjoining jurisdiction, if convenient. Comp. Meyer says: ‘The Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania forbade his subordinates from giving the permission because the constitution of his Grand Chapter prohibited it.’ This of course exonerates the Grand High Priest; but we are sorry that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania passed such a selfish resolution.”

We are pleased to satisfy our Companion.

One hundred and forty-one Chapters; 8464 membership; a loss of 115.

James W. Underhill, Canton, M. E. Grand High Priest.

James Nesbitt, Troy, Grand Secretary.

OREGON.—1878.

The Eighteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Oregon, was held in Portland, June 7th, 1878.

M. E. Comp. J. B. Lee, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Twelve Chapters represented.

A resolution was adopted, “That no High Priest shall be installed into his office, unless he shall present to the installing officer a certificate from the Grand Lecturer, that he is

well qualified to confer all the degrees conferred in the Chapter."

A very good movement if the Grand Lecturer will only do his duty with firmness and impartiality.

Comp. T. McF. Patton presented an interesting report on Foreign Correspondence.

He reviews the Proceedings of 34 Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania *not* of the number.

Fourteen Chapters ; membership of 460 ; a decrease of 12.

Comp. John B. Congle, Portland, Grand High Priest.

Comp. R. P. Earhart, Salem, Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATION—1878.

A Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation, held in Providence, on January 22d, 1878, was called for the exemplification of the work. Most Eminent William T. C. Wardwell, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Ten Chapters represented.

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized.

The work was exemplified by Providence Chapter, No. 1, which was opened within the body of the Grand Chapter, and the Mark, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master's degree, were exemplified. Newport Chapter, No. 2, afterwards exemplified the Royal Arch Degree.

The Eightieth Annual Convocation was held in Providence, Tuesday, March 12th, 1878, the M. E. Grand High Priest presiding.

Nine Chapters represented.

A number of Grand Representatives were received with honors.

An amendment to the Constitution, making Past High Priests permanent members of the Grand Chapter, was postponed for one year.

The Grand Chapter subscribed to three copies for each Chapter in the jurisdiction, of the *Freemason's Repository*, a Masonic newspaper.

The Proceedings are embellished by steel plate portraits of Comp. P. G. H. P. Ariel Ballou, M. D., and of Comp. Rev. Henry W. Rugg, Grand Lecturer, a genial Companion, much beloved by his Companions.

Comp. George H. Burnham submitted an able report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing thirty-seven jurisdictions. We cannot understand why Pennsylvania Proceedings have not been received since 1875. We are sure they were sent each year as published. We have mailed duplicate copies, this date.

Of the General Grand Chapter he says :

“The Royal Arch Masons of Buffalo gave a fine reception to the officers and members of the General Grand Chapter and there was another General there too—General Good Time. The Grand Chapter of New York also paid its compliments by giving an elegant banquet which was followed by an excursion to Niagara Falls. Reviewing the matter, it would seem that although the Body don't accomplish much in the way of legislation, and what it does accomplish don't amount to anything, it shows a most extraordinary capacity for being entertained. It is but just to say, however, that some Companions, eminent in Masonry, endeavored to secure such legislation as would request that no provision be made for festivities or excursions by the Companions of the place where the Body shall hereafter assemble, and would prevent an adjournment during business hours for the purpose of participating in such, without unanimous consent. One of these resolutions was lost and the other continued.

“They tried to wrestle with the question of uniformity of ritual and kept a committee at work a day or two ; but the committee couldn't agree ; they got so far, however, as to exhibit their work, when the subject was laid upon the table and did not again appear. The Mississippi plan of consolidating Councils and Chapters was referred to a committee, who reported by resolution, that only the Capitular Degrees at present conferred by Chapters could be recognized ; this was postponed to the next meeting, as was a memorial from the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of North Carolina relating to the same matter. How not to do it is thoroughly understood, and the legislation amounts to nothing, for the reason that the Body has no power to enforce its decrees.

It is simply advisory, and its advice is heeded or not according to the opinions of the parties advised. Although the most of the Grand Chapters of the country have now become constituent members of the General Grand Chapter, we see no reason to advise a change from the course hitherto pursued by the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island towards the General Grand Chapter, believing that it is a good thing to 'let well enough alone.'"

Ten Chapters; 1620 members; an increase of 10.

Rev. William N. Ackley, Warren, Grand High Priest.

William R. Greene, Providence, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1878.

The Sixty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina was held in Charleston, February 12th, 1878, and was opened by Comp. Wm. K. Blake, Grand High Priest.

Twenty-three Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest, in his review, urges the Chapters to provide, for the use of their members, a library of standard Masonic works, and to collect and have bound the Annual Proceedings of the Grand Chapter.

"A knowledge of Masonic jurisprudence, history and literature, is not less essential to a just appreciation of the value of the Institution than to a proper administration of its government. A Chapter, composed of worthy and intelligent members, and faithful workmen, though numerically small, will be more valuable to society and receive more honor from God and man, than one made up of a multitude whose object is not to improve themselves in Masonry, but to promote their own interest or ambition.

"I repeat, therefore, that every Lodge and Chapter should have a library of its own, and every Mason should read and study more if he would be fruitful in good works and become a workman that needeth not to be ashamed."

The Grand Chapter pays mileage and per diem to the Representatives of subordinate Chapters.

The Most Excellent Master's Degree was exemplified by

Carolina Chapter No. 1, for which they received the thanks of the Grand Chapter.

The following sensible resolution was adopted :

“*Resolved*, That the subordinate Chapters are liable to the Grand Chapter for the dues upon members whose arrears have been remitted in such subordinate Chapter.”

Those of our Sister Grand Chapters who find fault with the *peculiarities* of Pennsylvania, can have an opportunity of commenting on South Carolina :

“Past Grand High Priest Blake then, in a few eloquent remarks, invested Grand High Priest DeSaussure with the ring of office. The Grand High Priest, in reply, gave a brief history of the ring ; how it was presented by Past Grand High Priest R. S. Bruns in behalf of its donors, to descend to his successors ; and alluded to how worthily it had been worn by his predecessors, and in particular to the distinguished services of the retiring Grand High Priest.”

A committee was appointed to confer with the Grand Council upon the subject of merging the Degrees of Cryptic and Capitular Masonry.

Comp. J. E. Burke, Grand Secretary, furnishes the report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-one Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1876, included.

Of the report of our Committee on Appeals he says :

“The Committee on Appeals report upon a case before them, upon grounds which appear to us to be a little too technical. They stick too close to the record. May be their rules require it—but we think in Masonic appeals that the Grand Chapter should not be so restricted. It may be necessary, for the sake of justice, sometimes to go outside of the record, and to take other testimony.”

We do stick close to the record. It is a right the accused has, and which the accuser and the Chapter must grant him. It is better to be right than wrong. Our Committee on Appeals do not try a case, or grant a rehearing. If the trial has not been conducted properly, the case is returned to the Chapter for another trial. A subordinate Chapter has entire jurisdiction over its members, which a Grand Chapter

cannot interfere with. They are alone the judges of whom they will associate with. If a Brother is unworthy of their fellowship they can expel him, but only in a lawful manner, and the Grand Chapter cannot restore to him his former rights, except an error has been committed in the trial. We acknowledge with pride that our Grand Chapter *does stick close to the record*.

Twenty-five Chapters; membership, 902; loss of 31.

W. G. DeSaussure, Charleston, Grand High Priest.

J. E. Burke, Charleston, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE—1877-8.

The Forty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee was held at Nashville, November 15, 1877. M. E. Comp. John S. Pride, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding.

Seventy-three Chapters represented.

The Deputy Grand High Priest read the address of the Grand High Priest, who was prevented from being present by sickness.

An invitation was received and accepted from the Nashville Medical College to visit its buildings and museum, and attend its lectures.

The Grand Chapter pays the Representative of each Subordinate Chapter two dollars per diem, and seven cents a mile one way for attending the Annual Meetings.

No report on Correspondence.

The Fiftieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, was held in Nashville, November 14, 1878. M. E. John S. Pride, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Sixty-four Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest bears a beautiful tribute to the memory of that good man and Mason, P. G. H. P. Comp. A. J. Wheeler, who fell a martyr to the yellow fever.

On Cryptic Masonry the following action was taken:

"The Committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter to consider and report upon the propriety of incorporating into Capitular Masonry the degrees of Royal and Select Master, beg leave to submit the following report:

"That inasmuch as the Grand Council has not taken any action upon this subject, and as another Convocation of this Grand Chapter will be holden before the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter for the United States, which alone can give efficacy to any movement in this regard, it is, in the opinion of your Committee, inexpedient to take action upon this subject at this Convocation."

A special Committee was appointed to devise and report a scheme for the immediate liquidation of the indebtedness of the Grand Chapter.

The report on Correspondence, by Comp. John Frizzell, is brief, owing to the fact that his time was taken up with disbursing the funds so generously and liberally contributed for the relief of the yellow fever sufferers in Tennessee.

Comp. Frizzell is the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, and he speaks his mind on the subject of merging the Cryptic degrees as follows:

"Much interest is manifested in the question of a union of the Council and Chapter degrees, and it seems to be the current of sentiment that such a union, upon some proper basis, is desirable, and will, in some way, be accomplished in the near future. Without expressing an opinion upon the merits of the question, we venture the suggestion that present action is premature, on the part of Grand or Subordinate Chapters, at least those holding allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, as this authority must act before any arrangement can be made efficacious. At the next Triennial Convocation, the General Grand Chapter can settle the question, some way, and action by Chapters, before this, only tends to complicate the matter."

Ninety-three Chapters; membership, 3271; a loss of 108.

Benjamin J. Haller, Memphis, Grand High Priest.

John Frizzell, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT—1878.

The Sixty-second Annual Grand Convocation was held in Burlington, September 25th, 1878, and was presided over by Most Excellent Comp. Edward S. Dana, Grand High Priest.

Twenty-three Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest has visited a number of the Chapters in the jurisdiction, and found that Royal Arch Masonry in Vermont was established on a sure foundation.

A number of deaths of distinguished members of the Grand Chapter was reported.

Representatives from Sister Grand Chapters were received, and a number appointed to represent Vermont.

Honor was paid to two veterans in Masonry, Comp. Leonard Sargeant, Past Grand Scribe, aged 85 years, and John B. Hollenbeck, Past Grand Secretary, aged 86 years, who were present at this meeting.

The other business was of local interest.

Comp. Edward S. Dana, Grand High Priest, submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence. He reviews the Proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1877, included.

He says: "The Grand Secretary of Pennsylvania sends us, at a late hour, after repeated requests, their Proceedings for 1877."

This was no fault of our Grand Secretary.

Again, he says of our Quarterly Communications: "The business done would not pay for lighting up their hall."

We do not work Masonry in Pennsylvania for what it will pay, but we meet together, quarterly, for Masonic intercourse, and it is nobody's business if our rent for each Quarterly Communication costs us \$500—for five minutes' or five hours' meeting. The pleasure we have in meeting together is worth double that amount.

Twenty-five Chapters; membership, 1869; a gain of 34.

Edward S. Dana, New Haven, Grand High Priest.

Wm. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN—1878.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin was held in Milwaukee, February 19th, 1878.

Facing the title page is a fine steel plate engraving of Comp. Wm. C. Swain, the Grand High Priest who opened the proceedings of this Annual Convocation.

The Grand High Priest decided:

“By the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of this State, a man who has lost one foot is ineligible for the Chapter Degrees.

“A Master Mason, who has lost the forefinger of his left hand, is fully able to conform to the ritual of the Degrees, and is eligible for the Chapter Degrees.

“I declined to make any decision upon a question whether it was necessary for an officer who was re-elected to be re-installed, because I did not like to reverse a custom, which has prevailed for some time, of not re-installing re-elected officers. At the same time, I am of opinion, that the custom is a wrong one, and tends to encourage slipshod ways of managing Chapters. An officer is elected for one year, and when the year has expired his term of office has expired; and if re-elected, he commences a new term, and is his own successor, and should, therefore, be re-installed. I recommend that the Grand Chapter authoritatively settle this question.”

We admire the way the Grand Chapter has dealt with the Sprague case. Sprague was a legal resident of Wisconsin, and applied to receive the Royal Arch Degrees in Illinois, during a temporary residence there. On this subject the report of the Grand High Priest was:

“M. E. Comp. Atkins, G. H. P. of Illinois, wrote, saying, ‘if the payment of the fee is satisfactory to the Chapter nearest Fond du Lac, I will order York to pay it over, and am willing to do anything for peace between us.’

“I replied, that if York Chapter would tender the fees and an apology to Darling Chapter, I would consider the matter settled, on the part of Wisconsin. Comp. Atkins thereupon convened York Chapter, which, after a statement

from Sprague, that he had considered his legal residence to be in Chicago, declined to tender either the fee or an apology, in which action they were sustained by their G. H. P.

"The matter was next taken to the General Grand Chapter, where the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, considering the question one of fact, and not of law, refused to decide upon Sprague's legal residence, simply ruling that York Chapter was justified in assuming, from the evidence before it, that Sprague was a resident of Illinois.

"I have reported thus fully upon this vexed question, as, although the matter has not terminated satisfactorily, the questions involved, and which have been satisfactorily settled, are of general interest. As we have already passed an edict excluding Sprague from our Chapters, and as he is now an undisputed resident of Wisconsin, I do not consider any further action necessary on the part of this Body."

The Grand High Priest, speaking of the General Grand Chapter, says:

"It was my privilege to attend, in company with R. E. Comps. Libbey and Ring, and M. E. Comp. Youngs, and we were received with a hospitality and a welcome, only equal to that extended to Dr. Kane, by the Esquimaux woman, who lent him her fattest baby for a pillow.

"Our Buffalo Companions left nothing undone to make our sojourn pleasant and agreeable.

"The session was a harmonious one, and if the amount of business accomplished was not large, or the stand taken upon important questions not very decided, it may be ascribed to a laudable desire not to wound the feelings of the most sensitive State Grand Chapters."

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized.

Comp. J. P. C. Cottrill—he of the "Royal Order," reports on Foreign Correspondence. He reviews in his usual able manner the Proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1876, of the number.

His conclusion reflects his mind:

"REPORTER—'Say, good pen, art thou weary?'

"PEN—'Nay, sir, but I fear your hand and brain may have tired.'

"REPORTER—'Not so, good pen, but I ask you if your

point has become sharpened or callous in the journey we have made?’

“PEN—‘Not so, sir, its direction is to kindness and to fair report and criticism. Shall it serve you more?’”

“REPORTER—‘Yes—say, yet, that Royal Arch Masonry flourishes healthily; that all our Brethren to us have been most kind; that we gratefully acknowledge all their words of courtesy and praise; and, say further and most kindly, a sweet good-bye to all.’”

“PEN—‘Sir, it has been surely done.’”

The Proceedings of the Grand Council, that body having merged with the Grand Chapter, are printed with the Proceedings.

Fifty-three Chapters; membership, 3133; a gain of 65.

Oliver Libbey, Green Bay, Grand High Priest.

John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

THE CONCLUSION.

The pleasant task of reviewing the transactions of our sister Grand Bodies for the year 1878 has been brought to a close. We have to report that peace and harmony and good will permeate each of our sister Grand Chapters. The universal depression in business has affected somewhat the numerical strength of the Chapters.

In some jurisdictions there appears to be a want of just discrimination in the admission of candidates—sympathy stands pleading for the admission of candidates, whom the Landmarks of Masonry say shall not be admitted. We are glad that with the exception of two or three Grand Chapters, the requirement is that the applicant shall be so physically perfect as to be able to do the work of the Chapter, and prove themselves Royal Arch Masons.

It was never contemplated when the Royal Arch was first formed that Lodges of Master Masons should so far forget the Ancient Landmarks as to admit those who were not physically eligible; if it had been supposed that such might be the case the requirements would have been the same as in the Craft Lodges.

The principal topic of discussion now among the Royal Arch Craft is the merging of the Royal and Select Degrees with the Chapters.

The Chapters are now over-worked. The High Priests of Chapters outside of Pennsylvania have to study the degrees of Mark, Past Master, Most Excellent and Royal Arch, and it is proposed to add two more degrees the Royal and Select.

Royal and Select Masters made in Chapters can only be known as clandestines, with no right to visit or be visited by the Regular Companions of those degrees.

It is a new hobby, a new day, and new duty, which we hope will be of short duration.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. William C. Hamilton, has been pleased to appoint us on the Committee of Foreign Correspondence for the year 1879. We had hoped to have escaped this labor, but he requests, and we will do our best to comply and furnish a report in due time.

Article IX, Section 4, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, presents the following as the duties of the Committee on Correspondence.

“To the Committee on Correspondence shall be referred all printed Proceedings addressed to this Grand Chapter from other Grand Chapters and Masonic Bodies, and such other matters requiring special consideration as the Grand Chapter may deem proper to submit to them. They are to examine the transactions of the preceding year, and select therefrom such matter as may be material for publication. This Committee shall report annually all its Proceedings for the approbation of the Grand Chapter on St. John the Evangelist Day.”

In this sense this entire volume becomes a part of the report of the Committee on Correspondence, and as such is fraternally submitted.

CHARLES E. MEYER.

STUDY OF CHINESE

MARK LUDWIG

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1955

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS

AND

MARK LODGES.

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

CHAPTERS, &C., MEETING IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.



NO.	NAME.	NIGHT OF MEETING.
3	Jerusalem,	Fourth Monday.
52	Harmony,	First Friday.
91	Columbia,	Third Wednesday.
169	Philadelphia,	Third Monday.
175	Keystone,	Second Thursday.
183	Oriental,	Third Thursday.
226	Siloam,	Third Wednesday.
232	St. John,	First Tuesday.
233	Kensington,	Fourth Monday.
240	Palestine,	Second Friday.
243	Tristram B. Freeman, . .	First Monday.
248	Temple,	Third Tuesday.
250	Corinthian	First Monday.
251	Signet,	Fourth Tuesday.



MARK LODGES.

91	Columbia,	Second Monday.
214	Girard,	Second Tuesday.
216	Excelsior,	Third Tuesday.

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.		
		COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	NO.	NAME.	NIGHT OF MEETING.
1	Andrew J. Kauffman, of Columbia.	Lancaster Lancaster York Adams Chester Chester Delaware Delaware Delaware Dauphin Cumberland Cumberland Franklin Fulton	Lancaster Columbia York West Chester Oxford Media Fernwood Chester Harrisburg Carlisle Mechanicsburg Chambersburg	43 224 199	Corinthian Howell	Fourth Wednesday. Second Tuesday. Second Wednesday.
2	Charles Roberts, of Chester.	Chester Chester Delaware Delaware Delaware Dauphin Cumberland Cumberland Franklin Fulton	West Chester Oxford Media Fernwood Chester Harrisburg Carlisle Mechanicsburg Chambersburg	202 223 234 256 258	Howell Oxford Media Fernwood Chester	Monday after Full Moon. Wednesday after Full Moon. Thursday after Full Moon. Wednesday on or bef. F. M.
3	Robert Snodgrass, of Harrisburg.	Dauphin Cumberland Cumberland Franklin Fulton	Harrisburg Carlisle Mechanicsburg Chambersburg	21 171 209 176	Perseverance St. John's S. C. Perkins Geo. Washington	First Thursday. First Thursday. Second Monday. Third Monday.
4	John Slingluff, of Nor- ristown.	Montgomery Montgomery Montgomery Bucks Bucks Chester Berks Berks Lebanon Schuylkill Schuylkill Schuylkill Schuylkill	Norristown Fort Washington Jenkintown Newtown Bristol Phoenixville Reading Reading Lebanon Minersville Tamaqua Pottsville Ashland	190 220 245 229 231 198 152 237 197 159 177 196 219	Norristown Fort Washington Abington Newtown Bristol Phoenix Reading Excelsior Weidle Schuylkill Tamaqua Mountain City Griscom	Second Monday. Thursday before Full Moon. Tuesday after Full Moon. Wednesday after Full Moon. Saturday after Full Moon. Saturday after Full Moon. Second Monday. First Wednesday. Second Tuesday. Tuesday on or before F. M. Friday after Full Moon. Monday after Full Moon. Third Thursday.
5	Jesse Orr, of Reading.	Berks Berks Lebanon Schuylkill Schuylkill Schuylkill Schuylkill	Reading Reading Lebanon Minersville Tamaqua Pottsville Ashland	152 237 197 159 177 196 219	Reading Excelsior Weidle Schuylkill Tamaqua Mountain City Griscom	Second Monday. First Wednesday. Second Tuesday. Tuesday on or before F. M. Friday after Full Moon. Monday after Full Moon. Third Thursday.
6	Abraham K. Whitner, of Pottsville.	Schuylkill Schuylkill Schuylkill Schuylkill	Minersville Tamaqua Pottsville Ashland	159 177 196 219	Schuylkill Tamaqua Mountain City Griscom	Tuesday on or before F. M. Friday after Full Moon. Monday after Full Moon. Third Thursday.

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.		
		COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	NO.	NAME.	NIGHT OF MEETING.
7	Bernard E. Lehman, of Bethlehem.	Schuylkill.....	Tremont.....	221	Tremont.....	Monday after Full Moon.
		Schuylkill.....	Mahanoy City....	252	Mizpah	Thursday after Full Moon.
		Northampton....	Easton	173	Easton	Fourth Monday.
		Northampton....	Bethlehem.....	216	Zinzendorf.....	Second Monday.
8	Thaddeus S. Hillard, of Wilkes Barre.	Lehigh.....	Allentown.....	203	Allen	Monday on or bef. F. M.
		Carbon.....	Mauch Chunk....	181	Lilly.....	Fourth Tuesday.
		Luzerne.....	Wilkesbarre.....	182	Shekinah.....	Third Tuesday.
		Luzerne.....	Plymouth.....	214	Valley.....	Friday on or before F. M.
		Luzerne.....	Pittston.....	242	Pittston.....	Last Thurs. of each month.
		Monroe				
9	Jas. H. Coddington, of To- wanda.	Lackawanna.....	Carbondale.....	179	Eureka	Wednesday after Full Moon.
		Lackawanna.....	Scranton	185	Lackawanna.....	Second Tuesday.
		Bradford.....	Towanda.....	161	Union	First Friday.
		Wyoming.....	Tunkhannock....	172	Temple.....	Monday after Full Moon.
		Wyoming.....	Factoryville.....	205	Factoryville.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.
		Sullivan.....				
10	Jno. H. Dusenberry, of Great Bend.	Susquehanna.....	Montrose.....	180	Warren.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
		Susquehanna.....	Great Bend.....	210	Great Bend.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
		Wayne.....	Honesdale	204	Anthony Wayne..	Tuesday after Full Moon.
		Pike				
11	Robt. C. Simpson, of Wellsboro'.	Tioga.....	Wellsboro'	194	Tioga.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
		Potter				
12	Alex. J. Frick, of Dan- ville.	McKean.....	Port Allegheny....	254	Arnold.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.
		Columbia	Catawissa	178	Catawissa.....	First Wednesday.
		Columbia	Bloomsburg	218	Bloomsburg.....	First Monday.
		Montour.....	Danville.....	239	Danville.....	Tuesday before Full Moon.
		Northumberland..	Sunbury.....	174	Northumberland..	

13	Geo. S. Snyder, of Williamsport.	Northumberland. Lycoming..... Clinton..... Centre..... Union..... Snyder.....	Watson town..... Williamsport..... Lock Haven..... Bellefonte.....	246 222 163 241	Warrior Run..... Lycoming..... La Fayette..... Bellefonte.....	Wednesday after Full Moon. Second Tuesday. Thursday after Full Moon.
14	Gilman T. Wheeler, of Ridgway.	Elk..... Cameron..... Blair..... Blair..... Cambria..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	Ridgway..... Emporium..... Hollidaysburg..... Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Newport..... Lewistown.....	230 227 166 189 195 201 255 228 238 186	Elk..... Emporium..... Mt. Moriah..... Mountain..... Portage..... Standing Stone..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Newport..... Lewistown.....	Third Tuesday. First and Third Wednesday. Third Tuesday. First Thursday. Fourth Tuesday. First Tuesday. Third Wednesday. Second Monday after F. M. Third Tuesday.
15	Benj. F. Custer, of Altoona.	Washington..... Nonongahela..... Brownsville..... Uniontown.....	Washington..... Nonongahela..... Brownsville..... Uniontown.....	150 249 164 165	Washington..... Monongahela..... Brownsville..... Union.....	Thursday after Full Moon. Second Tuesday. First Thursday.
16	Jno. P. Clark, of Newport.	Pittsburgh..... Pittsburgh..... Allegheny..... Allegheny..... Westmoreland..... Armstrong..... Butler..... Indiana..... Beaver..... Beaver.....	Pittsburgh..... Pittsburgh..... Allegheny..... Pittsburgh..... Greensburg..... Kittanning.....	162 193 217 257 192 247	Zerubbabel..... Duquesne..... Allegheny..... Shiloh..... Urania..... Orient.....	First Tuesday. Fourth Thursday. First Friday. Third Monday.
17	Philip M. Hockheimer, of Uniontown.	Rochester..... Beaver Falls.....	Rochester..... Beaver Falls.....	167 206	Eureka..... Harmony.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M. First Thursday.
18	Geter C. Shidle, of Pittsburgh.					

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.		
		COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	NO.	NAME.	NIGHT OF MEETING.
19	And. W. Cox, of Oil City.	Venango.....	Franklin.....	211	Venango	Second Thursday.
		Venango.....	Oil City.....	236	Oil City.....	Second Thursday.
		Warren.....	Warren.....	235	Occidental.....	Second Monday.
20	Mathias H. Henderson, of Sharon.	Forrest.. ..				
		Clarion.....	Edenburg.....	259	Eden	First Monday.
		Jefferson.....	Brookville	225	Jefferson	Second and Fourth Monday.
		Mercer.....	Greenville.....	212	Mound.....	Second Friday.
		Mercer.....	Sharon.....	244	Norman	Monday on or before F. M.
		Lawrence	New Castle.....	170	Delta.....	First and Third Friday.
		Crawford.....	Conneautville.....	187	Oriental.....	First Tuesday.
		Crawford....	Meadville.....	191	Solomons	Third Friday.
		Crawford.....	Titusville.....	207	Aaron	Thursday on or before F. M.
		Erie.....	Corry.....	200	Columbus.....	Second Friday.
		Erie.....	Girard.....	213	Girard.....	Second Friday.
		Erie.....	Erie.....	215	Temple.....	Second and Fourth Monday.
		Erie.....	North East.....	253	North East.....	

1878.



PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS
OF THE
GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

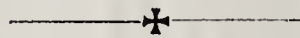


JOSEPH R. CHANDLER,
EDWARD P. LESCURE,
DANIEL THOMPSON,
BENJAMIN PARKE,
JEREMIAH L. HUTCHINSON,
GEORGE W. WOOD,
SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
GEORGE GRISCOM,
MICHAEL NISBET,
CHARLES E. MEYER,
ANDREW ROBENO, JR.,
GEORGE E. WAGNER,
ALFRED R. POTTER.

REPRESENTATIVES

TO AND FROM

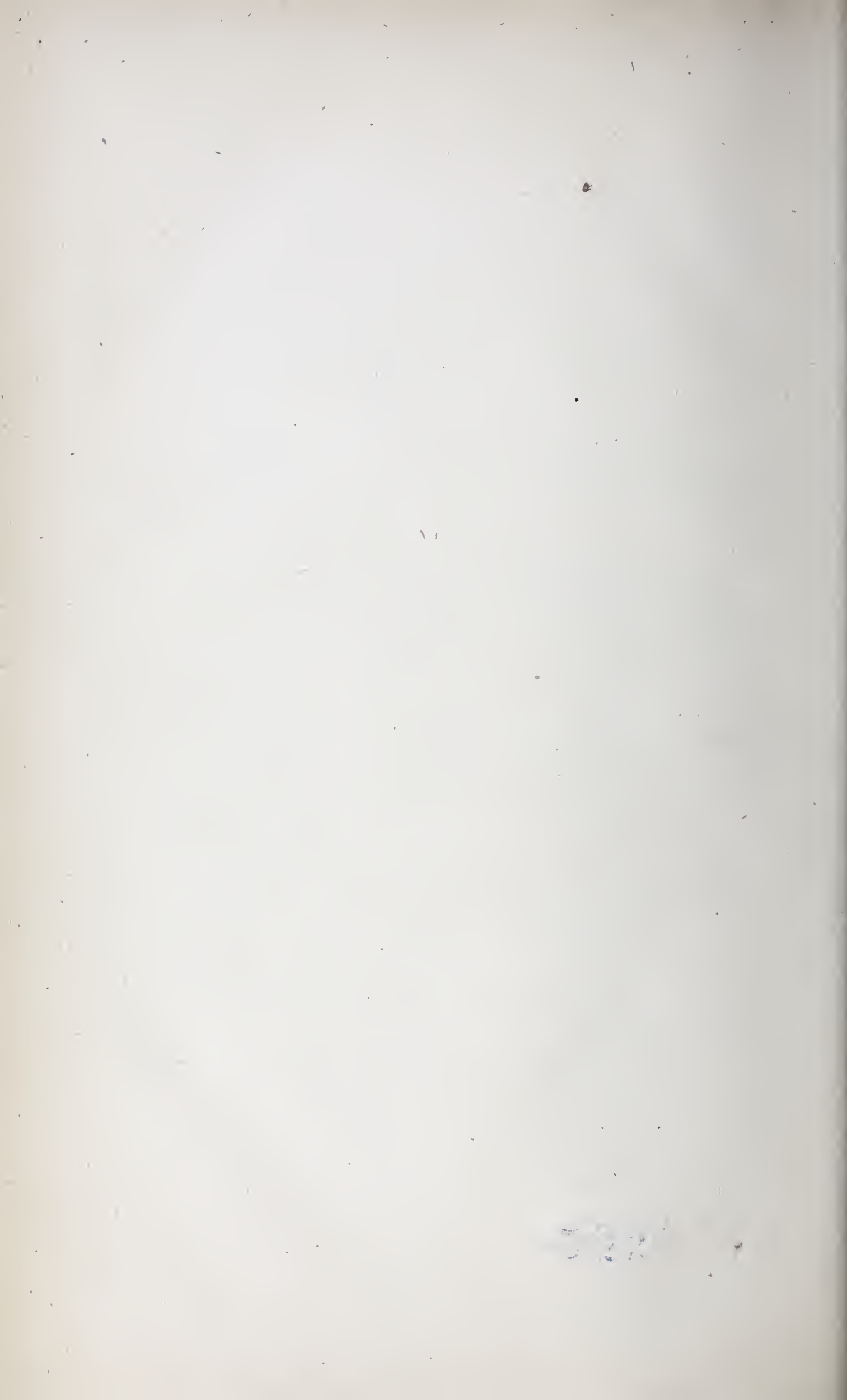
SISTER GRAND CHAPTERS.



TO PENNSYLVANIA.

FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

SAMUEL C. PERKINS, .	<i>Louisiana,</i> . . .	HENRY R. SWASEY.
	<i>New Jersey,</i> . . .	JOHN WOOLVERTON.
ALFRED R. POTTER, .	<i>New York,</i> . . .	JOHN W. SIMONS.
MICHAEL NISBET, .	<i>Nova Scotia</i> . . .	
	<i>Missouri,</i> . . .	OREN ROOT, JR.
MICHAEL NISBET, .	<i>Oregon,</i> . . .	JAMES R. BAYLEY.
JOHN L. YOUNG, .	<i>Maine,</i> . . .	MARQUIS F. KING.
	<i>Tennessee,</i> . . .	GEORGE W. JENKINS.
ANDREW ROBENO, JR.,	<i>Maryland,</i> . . .	
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Illinois,</i> . . .	ASA W. BLAKELEY.
HORACE FRITZ, . . .	<i>Wisconsin,</i> . . .	
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>South Carolina,</i> . . .	
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Iowa,</i> . . .	
DAVID B. TAYLOR, .	<i>District of Columbia,</i>	
THOMAS R. PATTON, .	<i>Nebraska,</i> . . .	WILLIAM R. BOWEN.
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Massachusetts,</i> . . .	
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Supreme Grand Chap-</i>	
	<i>ter of Scotland,</i> . . .	LINDSAY MACKERSY.
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Grand Mark Lodge of</i>	
	<i>England,</i> . . .	WM. J. HUGHAN.



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

MOST EXCELLENT

GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA,

AND MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27, 1879.

PHILADELPHIA :
PRINTED FOR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA,
By McCalla & Stavelly, 237-9 Dock Street.
1880.

GRAND
HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER,
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

Held at the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, February 6th, A.D. 1879—A.I. 2409.

PRESENT.

Comp. WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" HIBBERT P. JOHN, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
" AUGUSTUS R. HALL, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" JOHN THOMSON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions WOOD and MEYER.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 158, 169, 175, 183, 190, 196, 208, 232, 233, 234, 243, 245, 248, 250.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form
at 6 o'clock, P. M.

General Returns for 1878 received from Chapters
Nos. 21, 43, 52, 152, 163, 164, 173, 175, 177, 180, 181,
183, 186, 187, 190, 192, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199,
200, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 212, 213, 216, 217, 218,
219, 220, 221, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 232, 234,
236, 238, 240, 241, 243, 244, 248, 252, 255, 256 and
Mark Lodge, No. 91.

The Committee on Finance made the following re-

port, when on motion severally made, the resolutions were adopted :

To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania :

COMPANIONS: The Committee of Finance would respectfully report, that they have given consideration to a communication of ——— Chapter, No. —, referred to them by the M. E. G. H. Priest, in which they ask for a remission of dues for the year 1878, and for permission to solicit contributions from sister Chapters of this jurisdiction, for the purpose of relieving them of indebtedness, incurred at the formation of the Chapter, they having borrowed the money for that purpose, and for rent since accrued.

Your Committee recommend the remission of their dues for 1878, but deem it inexpedient to grant the latter request, as the result would be, that the healthful Chapters in addition to their own burdens, would be compelled to bear those of Chapters which had been improvidently organized, and had shown that they were unable to maintain themselves.

Your Committee offer the following:

Resolved, That the dues of Chapter, No. —, for the year 1878 be remitted.

Resolved, That so much of their request as relates to permission to solicit contributions from sister Chapters, in aid of their Treasury, *be not* granted by the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That hereafter no new Chapter shall be constituted until the petitioners therefore shall have fully satisfied the Officers of the Grand Chapter, that they have incurred no debts for clothing, paraphernalia, etc., etc., which they have not sufficient funds of their own to pay, thus enabling the Chapter to start free of debt.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

CONRAD B. DAY,
CHARLES W. PACKER,
JOHN CURTIS,
CHARLES D. FREEMAN,
Committee of Finance.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 30, 1879.

Companion Past Grand High Priest, CHARLES E. MEYER, on behalf of the Committee on Correspondence, in view of the action taken by several of the Grand Chapters of this Country, in reference to the status of Companions who have been suspended by their Blue Lodges for non-payment of dues, presented the following for consideration, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, Several of the Grand Chapters of the United States have declared that a Companion suspended by his Lodge of Master Masons for non-payment of dues, is not suspended in his Chapter, but continues a member in good standing of the same, with all the rights and privileges, and

WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter desires emphatically to declare the foregoing to be a violation of Masonic law and usage and gives countenance to suspended Masons;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Chapters subordinate to the jurisdiction of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, be directed to require all visitors for examination from other jurisdictions, prior to admission, a declaration in the following words: I do not stand suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, neither has my name been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues in my Lodge of Master Masons, or my Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

The M. E. Grand High Priest directed that a copy of the above report and resolution be sent to each Chapter in this jurisdiction and also each Grand Chapter in correspondence with this Grand Chapter.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report, when on motion the report was accepted, and the resolution adopted:

To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS: Your Committee on By-Laws having carefully examined the amendments to the By-Laws

of the Chapters hereinafter named, beg leave to offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the proposed amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 43, 182, 183, 225 and 240 be approved.

Resolved, That the first proposed amendment to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 215, be returned to said Chapter to correct the mistake made by them in said amendment, and that the second amendment be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

Chairman of Committee.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 6, 1879, A.I. 2409.

The Degree of Mark Master Mason was then duly exemplified by the Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter.

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 9 o'clock 5 minutes, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

Held at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, May 1st, A. D. 1879—A. I. 2409.

PRESENT.

Comp. WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ AUGUSTUS R. HALL, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions THOMPSON, MEYER and GRISCOM.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 152, 169, 175, 183, 190, 208, 224, 229, 231, 232, 233, 234, 237, 240, 243, 244, 248, 250, 256, 258.

Communication from Chapter No. 225, appointing Companion JOHN M. REYNOLDS its Proxy, was read, which was, on motion, received, and the Proxy acknowledged.

General Returns for 1878 were received from Chapters Nos. 3, 91, 150, 161, 165, 167, 169, 172, 174, 176, 178, 179, 185, 191, 193, 202, 208, 210, 211, 229, 230, 237, 245, 246, 250, 254.

The Committee on Work submitted the following report, viz:

To the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:

COMPANIONS: The Committee on Work, having had referred to them by the M. E. Grand High Priest the question as to the style and title of the subordinate Chapters and the degree of the Royal Arch, would report that at a meeting held this day, after a full discussion, decided that the title of a subordinate Chapter to be a *Chapter of Royal Arch Ma-*

sons, and that the degree conferred therein should be called the degree of a *Holy Royal Arch Mason*.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. W. WOOD,
MICHAEL NISBET,
JOHN THOMSON,
CHARLES E. MEYER.

PHILADELPHIA, April 25th, 1879.

On motion made and seconded, that the report be adopted, considerable discussion was had thereon.

On motion of Companion MORGAN, the further consideration of the subject was postponed until the next Quarterly Communication.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report, which was read, and, on motion, the accompanying resolution adopted :

To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Companions of the M. E. Grand H. R. A. Chapter of Pennsylvania :

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS: Your Committee on By-Laws, having examined the various Amendments to By-Laws submitted to them, beg leave to report the following resolution for your consideration :

Resolved, That the Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 91, 215, 226, 233 and 248 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,
Chairman Committee on By-Laws.

PHILADELPHIA, May 1st, 1879.

The Grand Officers then exemplified the "Work" of the Most Excellent Master Mason's Degree, to the satisfaction and profit of all Companions present.

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 9 o'clock 20 minutes, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,
Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Held at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, August 7th, 1879.—A. I. 2409.

PRESENT.

Comp. WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ AUGUSTUS R. HALL, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions THOMPSON, WOOD, NISBET and MEYER.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 162, 169, 175, 181, 183, 190, 196, 208, 229, 230, 232, 233, 234, 240, 243, 248, 250, 251, 256, 258.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at 7 o'clock, P. M.

Missive from JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, M. E. Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons of Quebec was read, appointing Companion CHARLES E. MEYER representative of said Grand Chapter; when, on motion, Companion CHARLES E. MEYER was acknowledged as such.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report, which on motion was accepted, and the resolutions adopted:

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the
M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS: Your Committee on By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws submitted to them, beg leave to report the following resolutions for your consideration:

Resolved, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 179

be amended, by adding to Sec. 1 of Art. V. the words "unless it shall appear that the same be lost or destroyed," and that said By-Laws be then approved.

Resolved, That the proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 193, 233, 255 and 256 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

Chairman.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 7th, 1879.—A. I. 2409.

The Committee on Appeals made the following report, which was, on motion, accepted, and resolution adopted:

To the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:

The Committee on Appeals respectfully report:

In the matter of the appeal of ——— from the action of ——— Chapter, No. —, in suspending him from membership.

It appears that, prior to the meeting in November, 1877, the following notice was received by Companion ———:

"———, Oct. 12, 1877.

"Comp.:—You are hereby notified that your dues in ——— Chapter, No. —, on Dec. 26th, next, will be \$19.50; we therefore request payment.

"Sec. 62 of Constitution provides, that the Secretary shall annually notify members in arrears, previous to St. John's Day, Dec. 27, and if the same be not paid on or before the stated meeting next preceding St. John's Day (Dec. 27), he may be suspended or expelled. Govern yourself accordingly.

"———,

"*Secretary.*"

The seal of the Chapter was not attached to this notice.

Companion ———, attended the stated meeting of the Chapter on the 5th of December, 1877, when the following resolution was passed:

"That all who are over four years in arrears for dues, be suspended, if not paid by December 27th, next, and that

“Companion ———, be continued at the pleasure
“of the Chapter.”

No further or other notice of any kind was given to Companion ———, but at the stated meeting of the Chapter, held January 2d, 1878, it was resolved, “that the resolution
“offered and carried on December 5th, last, be, and the same
“is hereby suspended, so far as it concerns Companion
“———; therefore resolved, that the pleasure of
“the Chapter (on continuation of suspension) in case of
“——— now cease, and that all members of this
“Chapter who are four years or more in arrears be, and the
“same are hereby suspended.” And the High Priest thereupon declared ——— suspended for non-payment of dues, the arrearages being over six years. Companion ——— was not present at this meeting.

At the same meeting, the Secretary then stated that the following-named Companions stood suspended, as per resolution of December 5th last, having failed to pay their dues, to wit: * * * Then follows seventeen names, including that of ———, and the High Priest thereupon declared each of the above mentioned Companions suspended for non-payment of dues.

In the judgment of your Committee, a statement of the case, as shown by these facts, must make it manifest that the proceedings were so contrary to Masonic law and usage that the action of the Chapter, in suspending Companion ———, cannot be sustained.

The first notice was without the seal of the Chapter, which, without entering into a lengthy argument upon the Constitutional provisions relating to the subject, it seems to your Committee was absolutely necessary in order to make the notice effectual as a foundation for inflicting the heavy penalty of suspension from the Masonic rights of a Companion in the Chapter. The necessity of the seal of the Chapter was not waived by the appearance of Comp. ——— at the meeting of December 5th, 1877.

In the next place, even if the notice had been in the

proper form, and duly served upon Companion ———, the action of the Chapter, at the meeting of December 5th, 1877, in regard to him, was irregular, in not fixing any definite time at which they would take action upon his case; and before proceeding to any action, based upon the Resolution of December 5th, 1877, in regard to Companion ———, the duty of the Chapter was clearly to have given him notice of the time and place when his case would be acted upon, and this notice should have been under the seal of the Chapter.

It is further to be remarked, that the action of the Chapter, at the stated meeting of January 2, 1878, was irregular, as Companion ———, with seventeen others, was pronounced suspended, *ipso facto*, without vote, upon the mere declaration of the Secretary that he and they had failed to pay their dues.

For these reasons the Committee are unanimously of the opinion that the appeal of Companion ——— should be sustained, and he be restored to all his rights and privileges of membership in ——— Chapter, No. —.

The Committee have not entered into the merits or demerits of the alleged causes of the action of the Chapter in regard to Companion ———, as it seemed to be wholly unnecessary under the circumstances of the case.

A resolution is submitted, which is hereto annexed:

Resolved, That the appeal of Companion ————— be sustained, and he be restored to membership as if said suspension had not taken place.

All which is respectfully submitted by

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
ALFRED R. POTTER,
CHAS. H. KINGSTON,
EDWARD STRICKLAND,
Committee of Appeals.

JULY 12, A. D. 1879, A. I. 2409.

The Grand Chapter resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on Work, which was

postponed at the last Quarterly Communication, until this evening.

It was moved to adopt the report, when the Most Excellent Grand High Priest decided that he could not entertain the motion, as by the Constitution the Degree is the "Royal Arch Degree." Companions on their exaltation become "Royal Arch Masons," and subordinate Chapters are "Chapters of Royal Arch Masons," the word "Holy" not to be used in either case.

The Grand Officers then exemplified the Degree of Royal Arch Masonry to the satisfaction and profit of all Companions present.

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 9 o'clock 25 minutes, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

Held at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, November 6, A.D. 1879—A.I. 2409.

PRESENT.

Comp. WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ AUGUSTUS R. HALL, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions THOMPSON, WOOD, PERKINS, MEYER and WAGNER.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 52, 91, 169, 175, 183, 186, 190, 193, 196, 198, 208, 222, 224, 231, 232, 233, 234, 237, 240, 243, 248, 250, 251, 258.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at 6 o'clock 10 minutes, P. M.

The Grand Secretary reported the following Chapters, *ipso facto*, suspended for non-payment of dues : Nos. 150, 165, 206, 211, 226, 229, 230, 247, 249.

Communication from Chapter No. 186, appointing Companion CHARLES A. ZERBE its Proxy, also one from Chapter No. 193, appointing Companion GEORGE LAING its Proxy in the next session of the Grand Chapter, also one from Chapter No. 222, appointing Companion GEORGE S. SNYDER its Proxy, were severally read, and on motion made, were received and Proxies acknowledged.

The M. E. Grand Secretary made the following report :

To the M. E. Grand Chapter :

The Grand Secretary respectfully presents the following annual report of the Chapters, Mark Lodges and membership of this jurisdiction for the year ending December 27th, 1878 :

The number of Chapters December 27th, 1877, were	103
Constituted in 1878,	1
	<hr/> 104
Warrant surrendered No. 204	1
	<hr/>
Chapters,	103
Mark Lodges,	3

CHAPTERS.

The number of members December 27th, 1877, were	10,339
Add Nos. 258 and 259,	53
Admitted during 1878,	50
Marked, &c., during 1878,	365
	<hr/> 10,817
Resigned during 1878,	378
Suspended and expelled during 1878,	129
Died during 1878,	139
	<hr/> 646
Members December 27th, 1878,	10,171

MARK LODGES.

Number of members December 27th, 1878,	2,003
Resigned during 1878,	19
Died during 1878,	21
	<hr/> 40
Number of members 1878,	1,963

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN THOMSON,

PHILADELPHIA, September, 1879.

Grand Secretary.

LIST OF CHAPTERS.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF CHAPTERS FOR 1878.

No. OF CHAPTER	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1877.	ADMITTED.	MARKED, &c.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	RESIGNED.	DIED.	TOTAL.
3	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Monday.....	391	2	13	11	1	5	389
21	Harrisburg.....	First Monday.....	143	2	2	6	1	3	137
43	Lancaster.....	Fourth Wednesday.....	268	1	4	6	6	6	255
52	Philadelphia.....	First Friday.....	535	1	9	17	2	4	522
91	Philadelphia.....	Third Wednesday.....	371		6	3	2	9	363
150	Washington.....	First Friday.....	53		1		12		42
152	Reading.....	Second Monday.....	205	2	3	5	2	3	200
159	Minersville.....	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	34						34
161	Towanda.....	First Friday.....	90	1	10	6	1	1	93
162	Pittsburgh.....	First Tuesday.....	313		7		5	8	307
163	Lock Haven.....	Thursday after F. M....	112		5	14	3		100
164	Brownsville.....	Second Tuesday.....	29	1	5		1		34
165	Uniontown.....	First Thursday.....	40			1	2	1	36
166	Hollidaysburg.....	Third Tuesday.....	52						52
167	Rochester.....	Wednesday after F. M..	55		2				57
169	Philadelphia.....	Third Monday.....	234	1	6	13		4	224
170	New Castle.....	Mon. on or bef. F. M..	42		1	1	2		40
171	Carlisle.....	First Thursday.....	61		4	3			62
172	Tunkhannock....	Monday after F. M....	14			3			11
173	Easton.....	Fourth Monday.....	138			11	1	5	121
174	Sunbury.....	Tuesday before F. M....	45		1				46
175	Philadelphia.....	Second Thursday.....	344	1	8	6	2	5	340
176	Chambersburg....	Third Monday.....	58			1	1	2	54
177	Tamaqua.....	First Mon. after F. M..	58				5		53
178	Catawissa.....	Wed. on or bef. F. M..	35		1	2			34
179	Carbondale.....	Wednesday after F. M..	80		2	7		1	74
180	Montrose.....	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	52					1	51
181	Mauch Chunk....	Fourth Tuesday.....	130		7			2	135
182	Wilkes Barre....	Third Tuesday.....	82	1	1	9	5		70
183	Philadelphia.....	Third Thursday.....	590		17	10	5	7	585
185	Scranton.....	Second Tuesday.....	108	2	2	11	3		98
186	Lewistown.....	Third Tuesday.....	66		3	3		1	65
187	Conneautville....	Third Friday.....	40		1		1		40
189	Altoona.....	First Thursday.....	66	1	1	2			66
190	Norristown.....	Second Monday.....	147		2	1	2	2	144
191	Meadville.....	First Tuesday.....	95		2	6		1	95
192	Greensburg.....	Thurs. after Third Tues.	115	1	3	11	1	1	106
193	Pittsburgh.....	Fourth Thursday.....	267		13	8	2	3	267
194	Wellsboro'.....	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	39				1	1	37

No. OF CHAPTER	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1877.	ADMITTED.	MARKED, &c.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	RESIGNED.	DIED.	TOTAL.
195	Johnstown.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	49		2	1			50
196	Pottsville.....	Monday after F. M.....	111	1	5	21		4	92
197	Lebanon.....	Second Tuesday.....	73		2	2		1	72
198	Phoenixville.....	Second Sat. after F. M..	89		1	6			84
199	York.....	First Wed. after First Monday.....	98			11		4	83
200	Corry.....	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	61			11	3		47
201	Huntingdon.....	First Tuesday.....	44				1		43
202	West Chester.....	First Monday after F. M.	59	1		7		1	52
203	Allentown.....	Mon. on or bef. F. M....	154	1	4	15	7		137
205	Factoryville.....	Wed. on or bef. F. M..	16	1					17
206	Beaver Falls.....	First Thursday.....	15		3	1			17
207	Titusville.....	Third Friday.....	112	3	5	3	4		113
208	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Monday.....	130		1	10	1	2	118
209	Mechanicsburg....	Second Monday.....	39	4			1		42
210	Great Bend.....	Thurs. on or bef. F. M..	53				1	1	51
211	Franklin.....	Second Thursday.....	64		5			1	68
212	Greenville.....	Sec. and Fourth Monday.	76		1	3		1	73
213	Girard.....	Second Friday.....	19		2	3	1		17
214	Plymouth.....	Friday on or bef. F. M..	38		3	2	3		36
215	Erie.....	Second Friday.....	69	4	7		4		76
216	Bethlehem.....	Second Monday.....	61		1	5	2	1	54
217	Allegheny City...	First Friday.....	231		5	15	1	1	219
218	Bloomsburg.....	First Wednesday.....	73			10		2	61
219	Ashland.....	Third Thursday.....	68			23		1	44
220	Fort Washington.	Thursday before F. M..	42		2	3	1		40
221	Tremont.....	Monday after F. M.....	48	1		1	1	1	46
222	Williamsport.....	Second Tuesday.....	93	2	5		5	2	93
223	Oxford.....	Wednesday after F. M..	37		3				40
224	Columbia.....	Second Tuesday.....	91			9	2	1	79
225	Brookville.....	First Monday.....	36		3	3			36
226	Philadelphia.....	Third Wednesday.....	118			6		2	110
227	Emporium.....	First and Third Wed....	43	1				2	42
228	Clearfield.....	Second Mon. after F. M.	64			5	3		56
229	Newtown.....	First Wed. after F. M..	42		1	2	2		39
230	Ridgway.....	Third Tuesday.....	45				1		44
231	Bristol.....	Saturday after F. M....	48			1			47
232	Philadelphia.....	First Tuesday.....	254	11		4		4	257
233	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Monday.....	346		6		2	7	343
234	Media.....	Thursday after F. M....	46				1		45
235	Warren.....	Second Mon. of March, June, Sept. and Dec..	34		1				35
236	Oil City.....	Second Thursday.....	67			4			63
237	Reading.....	First Thursday.....	137	10		8		2	137
238	Newport.....	Monday preceding Tues- day on or after F. M..	30				1		29
239	Danville.....	First Monday.....	39						39
240	Philadelphia.....	Second Friday.....	198	15			1	7	205
241	Bellefonte.....	First Friday.....	56	1			3		54

No. OF CHAPTER	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1877.	ADMITTED.	MARKED, &c.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	RESIGNED.	DIED.	TOTAL.
242	Pittston.....	Last Thursday.....	44						44
243	Philadelphia.....	First Monday.....	160		13	3		4	166
244	Sharon.....	Second Friday.....	62	1	2				65
245	Jenkintown.....	Tuesday after F. M....	35		2		1		36
246	Watson town.....	Wednesday after F. M..	27		2				29
247	Kittanning.....	Second Monday.....	67		5	1	4		67
248	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday.....	149	2	14	1		1	163
249	Monongahela City	Thursday after F. M....	24		3		1		26
250	Philadelphia.....	First Monday.....	166	2	12		3	2	175
251	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	109		3	1	1	2	108
252	Mahanoy City....	Thursday after F. M....	34						34
253	North East.....	Second Monday.....	20		3				23
254	Port Allegheny...	Second Tuesday.....	13	2	3		1		17
255	Bedford.....	Third Wed. before F. M.	26		4			1	29
256	Fernwood.....	Wednesday after F. M..	35		5				40
257	Pittsburgh.....	Third Monday.....	55	1	10			2	64
258	Chester.....	Last Monday.....	35	2	40				77
259	Edenburg.....	Second Tuesday.....	18	4	7				29

RECAPITULATION.

Members, Dec. 27th, 1877....	10,392	Resigned	129
Admitted.....	50	Died.....	139
Marked and Exalted.....	375	Total.....	10,171
Suspended or Expelled.....	378		



MARK LODGES.

No. OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1877.	ADMITTED.	MARKED, &c.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	RESIGNED.	DIED.	TOTAL.
91	Philadelphia	742			5		7	730
214	Philadelphia	765			4		11	750
216	Philadelphia	496			10		3	483
		2003			19		21	1963

The Committee on Finance made the following report, when, on motion, the report was accepted and resolutions adopted :

To the M. E. G. H. Priest, Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania :

The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Comp. Thos. R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Comp. John Thomson, from October 31st, 1878, to October 31st, 1879, inclusive, and found them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing :

RECEIPTS.

Balance October 31, 1878, as per Report,		\$3,037 07
For Dues and Fees from Chapters, Mark Lodges, etc.,		4,609 68
“ Interest on Masonic Loan,	\$1,140 00	
“ “ Deposits of Grand Treasurer,	44 60	
	<hr/>	1,184 60
		<hr/>
		\$8,831 35

PAYMENTS.

Expenses M. E. Grand High Priest,	\$1,000 00	
“ District Deputy Grand High Priests,	223 93	
Salaries from Sept. 30th, 1878, to Sept. 30th, 1879 :		
Grand Secretary,	\$750 00	
Clerk,	300 00	
Grand Tyler	100 00	
	<hr/>	1,150 00
Invested in Masonic Loan,		2,000 00
Premium on \$2000 Masonic Loan,		160 00
Grand Lodge, Rent from Sept. 30th, 1878, to Sept. 30th, 1879,		2,000 00
John L. Young, Mitre, etc., for Grand Chapter,		16 25
S. S. Wright, Tuning Organ from Sept. 30th, 1878, to Sept. 30th, 1879,		50 00
McCalla & Stavely, Printing Proceedings for 1878,		239 84
S. T. Thomson, Printing Notices, Circulars and Forms of Minutes,		65 50
Geo. F. Lewis, Printing 50 Grand Chapter Certificates on Parchment,		32 50
W. H. Hoskins, Stationery, Books, Letter Heads, etc., for Grand High Priest,		19 90
	<hr/>	6,957 92
Balance October 31st, 1879,		<hr/>
		\$1,873 43

Amount brought forward,	\$1,873 43
To pay balances due on appropriation to December 27th, 1879 :	
Rent from Sept. 30th to Dec. 27th, 1879,	\$500 00
Salaries from Oct. 1st, 1879, to Dec. 27th, 1879 :	
Grand Secretary,	187 50
Clerk,	75 00
Grand Tyler,	25 00
	<hr/> 787 50
Showing a balance of	\$1,085 93
To which add amount due Grand Chapter as per Balance Sheet,	289 69
	<hr/>
Showing a surplus over all Appropriations and Expenditures to December 27th, 1879,	\$1,375 62

We have examined the investments held by the M. E. Grand Treasurer, amounting to Nineteen Thousand Dollars, all of which are Bonds of the Masonic Loan, and found them correct. We have also examined the accounts of the M. E. Grand High Priest, and found them correct.

The Committee present the following estimate of the receipts and expenditures for the year 1880:

RECEIPTS.

Dues and Fees from Chapters and Mark Lodges,	\$4,200 00
Interest on Investments,	1,140 00
Cash on hand October 31st, 1879,	1,873 43
	<hr/>
	\$7,213 43

EXPENDITURES.

Rent for 1880,	\$2,000 00
Salary, Grand Secretary,	750 00
“ Clerk,	300 00
“ Grand Tyler,	100 00
Expenses M. E. Grand High Priest,	1,400 00
“ D. D. “ “ “	300 00
Printing, including Annual Proceedings, Stationery, Postage, etc.,	500 00
Balances due on appropriations to December 27th, 1879,	787 50
	<hr/> 6,137 50
	<hr/>
	\$1,075 93

The Committee offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That appropriations be made for the year 1880, as follows:

For expenses of the M. E. Grand High Priest,	\$1,400 00
“ “ “ D. D. “ “ Priests,	300 00
“ Grand Chapter, Rent,	2,000 00
“ Printing, including Annual Proceedings,	500 00
“ Salaries,	1,150 00

Resolved, That the Most Excellent Grand High Priest be and he is hereby authorized to draw his Warrants on the Most Excellent Grand Treasurer for the amounts named in the foregoing resolution, as they become due and payable.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be and is hereby directed to purchase \$1000 of Masonic Temple Redemption Loan for account of the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest be authorized to draw his Warrant for such sum as may be necessary to pay for \$1000 Masonic Temple Redemption Loan when purchased.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to grant the request of Newtown Chapter, No. 229, for the remission of their dues.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CONRAD B. DAY,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
CHAS. D. FREEMAN,
JOHN CURTIS,
CHAS. W. PACKER.

Annexed hereto is a balance sheet of the Grand Chapter, furnished by the Most Excellent Grand Secretary, showing the accounts of the Grand Chapter on October 31st, 1879, and the balances on that date after the closing entries are made for the fiscal year, 1879.

BALANCES OCTOBER 31, 1879.

DR.		CR.
Chapter No. 135.....	\$13 35	Chapter No. 161..... 50
“ “ 165.....	10 80	“ “ 172..... 3 10
“ “ 167.....	60	“ “ 177..... 05
“ “ 181.....	60	“ “ 182..... 90
“ “ 189.....	90	“ “ 194..... 4 40
“ “ 201.....	30	“ “ 195..... 3 60
“ “ 206.....	9 60	“ “ 216..... 1 50
“ “ 211.....	3 75	“ “ 222..... 3 00
“ “ 221.....	04	“ “ 225..... 70
“ “ 226.....	43 70	“ “ 254..... 1 70
“ “ 227.....	75	Dues..... 4,495 59
“ “ 228.....	9 20	Interest..... 1,184 60
“ “ 229.....	13 20	Grand Chapter of Penna. 20,440 85
“ “ 230.....	14 65	
“ “ 246.....	11 70	
“ “ 247.....	27 60	
“ “ 249.....	12 30	
“ “ 256.....	39 50	
Mark Lodge No. 216....	96 60	
Cash.....	1,873 43	
Expenses G. H. P.....	1,000 00	
“ D. D. G. H. P.....	223 93	
“ G. Chapter....	2,583 99	
Salaries.....	1,150 00	
Investments.....	19,000 00	
	<u>\$26,140 49</u>	<u>\$26,140 49</u>

BALANCES OCTOBER 31, 1879,

AFTER THE CLOSING ENTRIES ARE MADE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR, 1879.

DR.		CR.
Due by Chapters, &c....	\$309 14	Due to Chapters..... \$19 45
Cash.....	1,873 43	Grand Chapter of Penna. 21,163 12
Investments.....	19,000 00	
	<u>\$21,182 57</u>	<u>\$21,182 57</u>

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report, which was, on motion, accepted and the resolution adopted :

To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. G. H. R. A. Chapter of Pennsylvania, etc.:

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS: Your Committee on By-Laws having examined the amendments to By-Laws referred to them, respectfully report the following resolution for your consideration, to wit:

Resolved, That the proposed amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 163, 233 and 236 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

Chairman.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 6, 1879, A. I. 2409.

The amendments of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter proposed November 7, 1878, were taken up for consideration.

1st Amendment.

Companion GEORGE W. KENDRICK moved to indefinitely postpone, which was lost. Companion DAY moved to postpone the further consideration until November next, when Past Grand High Priest Companion WAGNER moved to amend by making the postponement until February, which was agreed to.

2d Amendment.

Companion WAGNER moved postponement until February. Agreed to.

3d Amendment.

Companion JOHN J. BEGGS moved its postponement until February. Agreed to.

Past Grand High Priest GEORGE E. WAGNER

offered the following amendment to the Constitution which was laid over, under the rules :

Amend Section 1, of Article VII, of the Constitution, by striking out all between the word "Chapter" in the first line and the word "appointed" in the fourth line, and inserting therein "may be represented in the Grand Chapter by one of its members who is also a member of the Grand Chapter who shall be."

Companion JOHN J. BEGGS offered the following amendment to the Constitution, which was laid over, under the rules :

Amend Article III, Section 1, by striking out November and inserting December.

Amend Article VIII, Section 5, by striking out November and inserting December.

Amend Article VIII, Section 6, by striking out the words in 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th lines, "member residing within three miles of the Hall, and hand the same to the Grand Tyler sufficiently early to be delivered by him at least twenty-four hours before the time of meeting," and insert as follows: "Chapter within this jurisdiction at least one month before the time of meeting."

Amend Article IX, Section 3, by striking out November and inserting December.

This being the time set apart by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter for the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, commencing on St. John's Day next, the Grand Chapter proceeded to the election. Tellers were appointed, who reported the following as the result of the ballot :

<i>Most Excellent Grand High Priest,</i>	Companion WILLIAM C. HAMILTON.
" <i>Grand King,</i>	" HIBBERT P. JOHN.
" <i>Grand Scribe,</i>	" AUGUSTUS R. HALL.
" <i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	" THOMAS R. PATTON.
" <i>Grand Secretary,</i>	" JOHN THOMSON.

And the Most Excellent Grand High Priest an-

nounced that the foregoing Companions were duly elected to the several offices as aforesaid.

All but Past High Priests who had received the Order of High Priesthood having retired, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest then exemplified the work relating to the said Order to the satisfaction of the Craft.

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 8 o'clock 25 minutes, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION,

Held at Philadelphia, December 27th, A.D. 1879—A.I. 2409.

PRESENT.

Comp. WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ HIBBERT P. JOHN,	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ AUGUSTUS R. HALL,	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON,	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON,	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>
“ CHARLES H. KINGSTON, . . .	<i>Assistant Grand Secretary, pro tem.</i>
“ ANDREW J. KAUFFMAN, . . .	} <i>D. D. Grand High Priests.</i>
“ JOHN SLINGLUFF,	
“ ANDREW W. COX,	
“ BERNARD E. LEHMAN,	
“ GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., . .	<i>Grand Captain of the Host.</i>
“ JOHN KELLER, JR.,	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner.</i>
“ HENRY R. COULOMB,	<i>Grand Royal Arch Captain.</i>
“ JAMES S. BARBER,	<i>Grand Master of 3d Vail.</i>
“ ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, . . .	<i>Grand Master of 2d Vail.</i>
“ PHINEAS GARRETT,	<i>Grand Master of 1st Vail, pro tem.</i>
“ EDWARD MASSON,	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
“ B. FRANK ABBETT,	<i>Grand Senior Master of Ceremonies, pro tem.</i>
“ CHARLES CARY,	<i>Grand Junior Master of Ceremonies, pro tem.</i>
“ JOHN L. YOUNG,	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
“ HARRISON G. CLARK,	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>

Past Grand High Priests.—Companions GEORGE W. WOOD, MICHAEL NISBET, CHARLES E. MEYER.

Grand Representatives.—Companion CHARLES E. MEYER, Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales, Grand Chapters of South Carolina, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts and Quebec.

Companion JOHN L. YOUNG, Grand Chapter of Maine.

Companion GEORGE W. WOOD, Grand Chapter of Virginia.

Companion THOMAS R. PATTON, Grand Chapters of Canada, Nebraska.

Companion MICHAEL NISBET, Grand Chapters of Nova Scotia, Oregon.

Companion DAVID B. TAYLOR, Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.

Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 169, 173, 175, 183, 190, 209, 216, 224, 226, 231, 232, 234, 244, 248, 251, 256.

Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at 6 o'clock 20 minutes, P. M.

General returns for 1879 were received from Chapters Nos. 91, 150, 152, 171, 174, 189, 198, 201, 209, 216, 222, 223, 224, 229, 231, 232, 233, 234, 238, 239, 245, 251, 255.

Companion Past Grand High Priest CHARLES E. MEYER, Chairman of Committee on Correspondence, made a report which was referred to the Grand Officers with power to make selections for publication. (See Appendix.)

So much of the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter held November 6th, 1879, as relates to the election of Officers were read.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, made the following address :

Companions of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging :

Previous to entering upon the duties, and assuming the responsibilities of the new Masonic year, it is eminently right and proper, that I should lay before you a record of my official acts, for that which is passing away.

In the discharge of the important and diversified duties that have devolved upon me, as Grand High Priest, I have endeavored to keep within the bounds of our ancient landmarks, usages, and customs, and the exercise of the authority with which you have invested me, has been tempered with that spirit of conservatism which has ever characterized this Grand Chapter and her representatives. In the early part of the present year accompanied by the M. E. G. K. and Scribe, I commenced a series of visitations to the Chapters meeting in this city. I found on inspection that a number of the officers were deficient in a knowledge of those essentials which are necessary to the correct performance of their duties. Hoping this condition existed from a lack of opportunity rather than disposition, I began to devise means whereby this evil, so destructive to our integrity, might be overcome.

Feeling satisfied that visitation and exemplifications of the work, were not adequate for thorough instruction in the ritual, I requested the High Priests of the several Chapters to convene their officers, for the purpose of rehearsal. These meetings, which continued from time to time during the past year, were well attended, and having personally superintended their proceedings, I can report that the result has been most gratifying.

Having concluded our visitations to the Chapters in the city, on Monday, May 26, visited Chester Chapter, No. 258, located in Chester, Delaware Co. Our presence was greeted by a large assemblage of Companions, who, together with the officers of the Chapter, gave close attention to the instruction of the Grand Officers; this Chapter is, seemingly, in a prosperous and flourishing condition; its members are active and energetic, its minutes neat and well kept, and in all its workings there is an evident desire to be in accord with the parent body.

On Wednesday, June 4, visited Media Chapter, No. 234, located in Media, Delaware Co. A furious storm prevailing in the early part of the evening, it was 9 o'clock before there was a sufficient number to open the Chapter. I found, on inquiry, that the officers-elect had not yet been installed, evincing an unpardonable lack of interest on the part of the Past Officers, and the D. D. G. H. Priest, but complying with the request of the High Priest-elect I installed him, conferring upon him the Order of High Priesthood. I then addressed the Chapter, giving them such advice as their necessities demanded, and I fervently hope that they may reap much profit from the instruction.

On Monday, June 16, accompanied by a full corps of Grand Officers, I left on the 8 o'clock, A.M. train, via Penna. R. R. for Scranton, arriving there at 6 o'clock, P. M., when we were greeted by D. D. G. H. P. Comp. T. S. Hillard, and a number of Companions from Carbondale and Wilkes Barre, by whom we were escorted to our Hotel. After a rest and supper, we proceeded to the Hall for the purpose visiting Lackawanna Chapter, No. 185. A large number of Companions was awaiting our arrival, and after the entrance of the Grand Officers, the Chapter was opened. I would here state that, in all my visitations, I have endeavored to be present at the opening of the Chapter, in order that I might instruct the Officers in the ceremonial incident thereto, should they require it. After addressing the Chapter, the

Mark and M. E. M. Mason's degrees were exemplified by the Grand Officers.

This Chapter has been in a precarious condition for some time past, owing to the fact, that quite a number of its most influential members were involved in the unfortunate riots which occurred in their vicinity the previous year.

Peace and quietness having been restored in that locality, I was gratified to discover, upon the part of the officers of the Chapter, a disposition to acquire a thorough knowledge of the work. I was also pleased with the commendable interest manifested by the members.

Our reception at Scranton was most cordial, the Companions were profuse in their attentions, and succeeded in making our visit exceedingly pleasant. On Tuesday, June 17, we left for Wilkes Barre, arriving at Kingston, on the opposite side of the river, at 11 A. M. We were met by a Committee composed of the officers and members of the Chapter who escorted us in carriages to the Wyoming Valley House in Wilkes Barre. At 7 o'clock, P. M. we visited Shekinah R. A. Chapter, No. 182. There were present a large number of Companions, including representatives from various Chapters in the District; the Mark Master Mason's degree was conferred in an efficient and intelligent manner, by D. D. G. H. P. Comp. T. S. Hillard, assisted by the officers of the Chapter, after which the Most Excellent Master Mason's and Royal Arch degrees were exemplified by the Grand Officers. I was pleased to find in this Chapter, a number of active and energetic Companions, and I have every reason to believe that our visit will have a beneficial result.

On Monday, June 23, a visitation was made to Germantown R. A. Chapter, No. 208, located at Germantown. Although notice of our intention had been sent to the members, there was scarcely two dozen present. In justice to the working spirits of the Chapter, I would say that all of the Past High Priests were present with one exception. The Mark Master Mason's degree was exemplified by the Grand Officers; the sparse attendance, and the extreme heat causing us to defer further instruction until some future time.

September 8, we visited Norristown. We were met by D. D. G. H. P. John Slingluff, and a number of Companions. In the evening, at 7 o'clock, made a grand visitation to Norristown R. A. Chapter, No. 190; the M. M. M. degree was rehearsed in a creditable manner by the officers of the Chapter, after which I addressed them, pointing out to them

errors, and giving them fraternal advice and instruction. From the expressions of satisfaction, by the Companions, I am led to believe that our visit will not be barren of fruit. The proverbial hospitality of the Companions of Norristown, was fully manifested on this occasion.

September 22, the Grand Officers left for Lancaster. Upon our arrival there, we were greeted by D. D. G. H. P. Comp. Andrew J. Kauffman, and a number of the Companions of No. 43, who made especial efforts to render our visit agreeable. In the evening we visited R. A. Chapter, No. 43, which meets in one of the most gorgeous and beautiful halls in the State, an evidence of the refined taste, and the liberality of the members. The M. M. Mason's degree was conferred upon a candidate, by the officers of the Chapter, and although not in strict accordance with the ritual authorized by the Grand Chapter, it was exceedingly well rendered. At its conclusion, I addressed the Chapter, pointing out, during my remarks, such errors as I had noticed, and gave such advice, regarding future conduct, as I deemed necessary. This meeting was extremely large, there being present delegations from Columbia, York, Marietta and Chambersburg. It is always pleasant for me to note, as I did on this occasion, the presence of so large a number of Past High Priests. The M. E. M. Mason's degree was exemplified by the Grand Officers, and was listened to with evident satisfaction. Our labors being concluded, at the invitation of the Companions, we accompanied them to the banquet hall, and after spending a social hour, we returned to our hotel, taking the early morning train for home.

On Monday, October 27, the Grand Officers left for Easton. At Bethlehem we were met by D. D. G. H. P. Comp. B. E. Lehman, who took our party in charge, and cared for our comfort. In the evening we made a grand visitation to Easton R. A. Chapter, No. 173. I had anticipated a large attendance of members, from the fact that the Chapter had not been visited by the Grand Officers for some time, but I was doomed to disappointment; as there were five or six enthusiastic Companions present the M. M. Mason's and Royal Arch degrees were exemplified by the Grand Officers. With this we concluded our grand visitations for the present Masonic year.

Much of the success of the visitations, rehearsals, and exemplifications, is due to the prompt and efficient aid accorded me by the Grand Officers; we have labored together

during the present year, with a unity of purpose and a harmony of action that cannot fail to crown our efforts with great benefits.

It having come to my notice, that some of the Chapters were using petitions for the degrees and membership, that were not in strict accordance with our adopted form, I, in my letter of instruction, to the D. D. G. H. Priests requested them to forward to this office a copy of those used by the Chapters in their several districts. To this order I received a prompt response. Upon examining a large number that were sent in, we found but four or five that were in accordance with the prescribed form. I therefore issued a circular letter, to which was appended a copy of the form of petition from the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, to every High Priest in the jurisdiction, and I am able to say, that the Chapters have generally complied with the lawful requirements.

There has been prepared for the use of our subordinates, a complete form for recording the proceedings of a Royal Arch Chapter, copies of which have been sent to the High Priests and Secretaries throughout the jurisdiction. I now rest assured that there cannot exist an excuse for the egregious errors, and gross mistakes (should they occur again), that have been found in a large number of cases upon the examination of their minutes.

DISPENSATIONS.

December 30, 1878, I granted a dispensation for Chapter No. 245, located in Jenkintown, to hold a special election for officers, it having appeared that there was not a sufficient number of Companions present to open the Chapter, on their stated night of meeting, in December.

January 14, 1879, I granted a dispensation for Chapter No. 199, located in York, to hold a special election for Scribe, the Companion elected to fill that office having died.

February 23, I granted a dispensation for Chapter No. 243, located at Media, Delaware Co., to hold a special election for officers, I, having by edict, set aside the election held by them in December, for the reason that it was not conducted according to the requirements of the Grand Chapter.

March 26, I granted a dispensation for Chapter No. 169, to hold a special election for Secretary.

February 11, at the request of Comp. George H. Jones, M. E. G. H. Priest, of New Jersey, I granted permission to

Madison Chapter, No. 27, R. A. M., to confer the degrees upon Bro. Wm. J. Cowley, a resident of this jurisdiction.

Also, on February 26, for Silvan Chapter, No. 19, R. A. M., of Camden, N. J., to confer the degrees upon Bro. John Innes a resident of this jurisdiction.

June 23, at the request of Comp. ———, M. E. G. H. Priest of New York, I granted permission to Neversink Chapter, No. 186, R. A. M., of N. Y., to confer the degrees upon Bros. J. H. Van Ellen, and Gouverneur Emmerson, residents of this jurisdiction.

On April 24th I wrote to Comp. Jas. Underhill, M. E. G. H. Priest of Ohio, requesting permission for Chapter No. 257, located at Pittsburgh, Pa., to receive a petition for the degrees and membership, from Bro. Jos. A. Saunders, a resident of Columbus, Ohio, which request was granted.

Being desirous of fostering the fraternal relations existing between the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania and her sister Grand Chapters, I have appointed the following representatives :

On May 2d, 1879, Companion Leon M. L. Baldwin, of Nevada, to be the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania near the Grand Chapter of Nevada.

On same date, Companion Frank M. Edgar, of Quebec, to be the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania near the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

October 4th, Companion Clark Varnum, of Iowa, to be the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania near the Grand Chapter of Iowa.

RESIGNATION.

April 25th, I accepted the resignation of Companion Robt. C. Simpson, of Wellsboro', D. D. G. H. Priest. I regretted exceedingly to lose the services of so faithful an officer, but it was unavoidable. I appointed in his stead Companion Henry W. Williams, of Wellsboro'.

I desire to call the attention of the Grand Chapter to the fact that the officers of the late Chapter No. 204, at Honesdale, have not complied with the Constitution in the matter of returning their jewels, clothing and paraphernalia to this Grand Body, although a year has elapsed since they surrendered their warrant.

Upon examining the reports of the D. D. G. H. Priests, I find that in the main they have exercised a careful supervision of the interests of R. A. Masonry in their several

districts. I therefore earnestly entreat the Companions to reciprocate their kindly offices by a strict attention to, and a diligent performance of, the duties pointed out to them.

Now, my Companions, I have presented for your inspection all that has occurred most interesting to you during my official capacity as Grand High Priest.

Truth, whether it be agreeable or unpalatable, must be spoken; therefore we state, with a sense of deprecation, that Royal Arch Masonry, within the circle of my visitations, is not in that growing and flourishing condition which would aid so materially in building and strengthening our Fraternity. It is true there is a certain kind of "*peace and harmony reigning*," but it is of a negative character, and is the result of apathy and neglect; apathy upon the part of the officers of the Chapters, and neglect upon the part of the members in attending the meetings thereof. These are the conditions that prevail generally in that portion of the jurisdiction included in my visitations, although there are many honorable exceptions, to whom we extend the meed of praise. It is important to us, as Royal Arch Masons, to arouse ourselves more keenly to the necessity of adopting measures whereby this evil may be overcome. Therefore I desire your attention while I endeavor to demonstrate the means whereby this condition of our Fraternity may be averted in the future, and activity and prosperity again be restored. In attempting this I do not desire to presume upon any ability I may possess, but I regard it as a duty, so long as I preside as your Grand High Priest, to call the attention of the Companions to the satisfactory result and the innumerable advantages to be achieved by a faithful and conscientious performance of the duties of their several stations:

The officers and members of a Chapter should be united in one brotherhood, characterized by purity and singleness of purpose, which would exert giant power in preserving its integrity. This spirit of unity should be encouraged and applauded wherever we observe its manifestation, in order that our success may have lasting foundation.

The prospective High Priest of a Chapter is, by a wise custom of our Fraternity, placed on probation, as it were, by his election as Scribe thereof; this, and his subsequent year as King, should be spent in a diligent and conscientious preparation for the discharge of the high and important duties that will devolve upon him should he attain to the High Priesthood.

An intelligent comprehension of the ritual is of the utmost importance; it is, in my estimation, the basis of a Masonic education, and from this knowledge he will be able to evolve those beautiful symbolic lessons that have always been the distinguishing feature of our solemn rites and observances.

He should carefully study the Constitution of the Grand Chapter and the By-Laws of his own Chapter; the landmarks, usages and customs of Masonry should be written indelibly in his mind, and when he attains to the High Priesthood his demeanor while presiding officer should be mild, dignified and courteous; these qualifications, combined with moderation, in the exercise of the prerogatives of his station, will at once command the esteem and veneration of his Companions.

There is an important responsibility attached to the several positions occupied by the subordinate officers of a Chapter. These places should never be assumed by a Companion unless he be inspired with zeal, energy and a respectful submission to the authority for the time being. When accepted he should show his gratitude for the preferment by a prompt attendance upon all the meetings of the Chapter, and also by a conscientious preparation of the part designed to be performed by him.

Thus acting in harmony, High Priest and officers, you will be able to bestow upon your Chapter that intellectual repast so necessary to its vitality. You will exhibit to the Companions that your heart is in the work before you, and that you are laboring with fervent interest for the propagation of the grand truths and principles embodied in the institution of Masonry.

Ours has been termed an honorable society, therefore it is our sacred duty to endeavor most strenuously to preserve unsullied our ancient prestige, and zealously guard against any dereliction in the performance of our duties by which tarnish may gather on the fair lustre of our honor.

Yet, my Companions, we may indirectly, and in the perfect faith of unconsciousness, commit many errors that will detract from the elevated standing of our Fraternity; therefore we should be watchful, diligent and industrious, regarding our associates in the spirit of brotherly affection, laboring to repress those noxious passions, malice, envy and censoriousness, before they take root in the heart, to blossom in rank luxuriance, and overshadow our brave resolutions.

These vices are pernicious to all that is true and good, and are capable of shattering the foundation of any society, however firm its structure.

Finally, my Companions, as we are entering upon the cares and the responsibilities of another year, I trust that I shall receive at your hands the same cordial and generous support that I have received in past days, and in all my efforts of instruction I shall be rewarded with increasing and unfaltering interest in the duties you owe to the Fraternity.

All but Past High Priests, who had received the order of High Priesthood, having retired, Companion WILLIAM C. HAMILTON was duly installed Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was duly proclaimed as such, and received the salutations of his Companions.

The Companions who had retired were then re-admitted. After which the following named Companions were duly installed and severally proclaimed, and received the salutations of the Craft.

Companion HIBBERT P. JOHN, *M. E. Grand King.*
 “ AUGUSTUS R. HALL, *M. E. Grand Scribe.*
 “ THOMAS R. PATTON, *M. E. Grand Treasurer.*
 “ JOHN THOMSON, *M. E. Grand Secretary.*

The M. E. Grand High Priest was pleased to make the following appointments:

Grand Captain of the Host:

Comp. GEO. W. KENDRICK, JR.

Grand Principal Sojourner:

Comp. JOHN KELLER, JR.

Grand R. A. Captain:

Comp. HENRY R. COULOMB.

Grand Chaplain :

Comp. Rev. THOS. J. DAVIS.

Grand Master of 3d Vail :

Comp. JAMES S. BARBER.

Grand Master of 2d Vail :

Comp. ALEX. H. MORGAN.

Grand Master of 1st Vail :

Comp. WM. H. HECK.

Grand Marshal :

Comp. EDWARD MASSON.

S. G. Master of Ceremonies :

Comp. CHAS. W. NOLEN.

J. G. Master of Ceremonies :

Comp. WM. H. HOSKINS.

Grand Pursuivant :

Comp. JOHN L. YOUNG.

Grand Tyler :

Comp. HARRISON G. CLARK.

Committee on Work :

Comp. GEORGE W. WOOD, P. G. H. P.

“ MICHAEL NISBET, “

“ DANIEL THOMPSON, “

“ CHARLES E. MEYER, “

“ JOHN THOMSON, G. S.

Committee on Finance :

Comp. CONRAD B. DAY,

“ CHARLES W. PACKER,

“ M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,

“ JOHN CURTIS,

“ CHARLES D. FREEMAN.

Committee on Correspondence :

- Comp. CHARLES E. MEYER, P. G. H. P.
 " THOMAS JACOBS,
 " OSCAR THOMPSON,
 " LOUIS WAGNER,
 " SAMUEL HARPER,

Committee on By-Laws :

- Comp. J. ALEX. SIMPSON,
 " SAMUEL McCAMBRIDGE,
 " WILLIAM A. MORTON,
 " ROBERT C. FLOYD,
 " HENRY J. WHITE.

Committee on Appeals :

- Comp. SAMUEL C. PERKINS, P. G. H. P.
 " ALFRED R. POTTER, "
 " GEORGE E. WAGNER, "
 " CHARLES H. KINGSTON,
 " EDWARD STRICKLAND.

Committee on Charity :

- Comp. SAMUEL W. WRAY,
 " B. FRANK ABBETT,
 " WILLIAM HIMROD,
 " ARTHUR H. WOODWARD,
 " DAVID S. CRAVEN.

Committee on Printing and Publishing :

- Comp. DENNIS F. DEALY,
 " CHARLES CARY,
 " ALEX. M. LLOYD,
 " WILLIAM W. ALLEN,
 " WILLIAM H. MITCHELL.

District Deputy Grand High Priests :

- I.—Companion ANDREW J. KAUFFMAN, of Columbia,
 for Counties of Lancaster, York and Adams.

- 2.—Companion EDWARD S. WORRELL, of Chester, for Counties of Chester and Delaware, except Chapter No. 198, at Phoenixville.
- 3.—Companion ROBERT SNODGRASS, of Harrisburg for Counties of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin and Fulton.
- 4.—Companion JOHN SLINGLUFF, of Norristown, for Counties of Montgomery, Bucks, and Chapter No. 198, at Phoenixville.
- 5.—Companion FREDERICK W. LAUER, of Reading, for Counties of Berks and Lebanon.
- 6.—Companion ABRAHAM K. WHITNER, of Pottsville, for County of Schuylkill.
- 7.—Companion BERNARD E. LEHMAN, of Bethlehem, for Counties of Northampton, Lehigh and Carbon.
- 8.—Companion THADDEUS S. HILLARD, of Wilkes Barre, for Counties of Luzerne and Monroe.
- 9.—Companion JAMES H. CODDING, of Towanda, for Counties of Bradford, Wyoming and Sullivan.
- 10.—Companion JOHN H. DUSENBERRY, of Great Bend, for Counties of Susquehanna, Wayne and Pike.
- 11.—Companion HENRY W. WILLIAMS, of Wellsboro', for Counties of Tioga, Potter and McKean.
- 12.—Companion O. H. OSTRANDER, of Danville, for Counties of Columbia, Montour and Northumberland.
- 13.—Companion GEORGE S. SNYDER, of Williamsport, for Counties of Lycoming, Clinton, Centre, Union and Snyder.

- 14.—Companion GILMAN T. WHEELER, of Ridgway, for Counties of Elk and Cameron.
- 15.—Companion EDMUND H. TURNER, of Altoona, for Counties of Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Bedford and Clearfield.
- 16.—Companion JOHN P. CLARK, of Newport, for Counties of Perry, Mifflin and Juniata.
- 17.—Companion PHILIP M. HOCHHEIMER, of Uniontown, for Counties of Washington, Fayette, Greene and Somerset.
- 18.—Companion GETER C. SHIDLE, of Pittsburgh, for Counties of Allegheny, Westmoreland, Armstrong, Butler, Indiana and Beaver.
- 19.—Companion ANDREW W. COX, of Oil City, for Counties of Venango, Warren, Forrest, Clarion and Jefferson.
- 20.—Companion MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, of Sharon, for Counties of Mercer, Lawrence, Crawford and Erie.

The Grand Secretary was pleased to appoint Companion J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, Assistant Grand Secretary, which was approved by the Grand Chapter.

Grand Chapter closed in peace at 8 o'clock 5 minutes, P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS
TO
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

OFFICE OF THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF THE
GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA,
AND MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING.

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, December 27th, A. D. 1879, A. I. 2409.

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION: In appointing you to the office of District Deputy Grand High Priest, I do so with full confidence in your skill and capacity. And I hope that during the present year, you will prove your devotion to the Grand Chapter, by a faithful and diligent discharge of the duties of your office, as defined in the Constitution; also in rendering prompt obedience to the instructions contained in this circular letter.

I.—You will visit every Chapter in your District, at least once during the year, and as soon after the receipt of your commission as possible; your expenses incurred in making such visit will be defrayed when you render an account of the same.

II.—All officers and members of Chapters in your District should, in the first instance, address you upon all questions of Law or Work. Your decisions and correspondence you will cause to be preserved as part of the official record of your administration.

Through you, all appeals to this office must be made; and

with every appeal, you will send a copy of your decision to which said appeal refers, and also of the correspondence relating thereto. All correspondence relating to your official duties must be addressed to the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

III.—You will enter in your record book, the date of your visits to the several Chapters in your District, the result thereof, and such other information regarding Capitular Masonry as may be useful or important. This book must be sent to the Grand Secretary, for the examination of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, before the 20th day of December next.

IV.—You will see that every Chapter in your District is in possession of one or more copies of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, adopted November 3d, A. D. 1871, A. I. 2401, together with the amendments thereto, since adopted; and you will read, or cause to be read, in each Chapter from time to time, for the information of the Companions, the sections of Article XV, relating to membership, conferring of degrees, etc.

V.—It is my desire that the officers of the respective Chapters should perform their own work. You will therefore see that they are properly instructed in the ritual, and for this purpose you should convene them as often as possible during the year.

VI.—The order of High Priesthood should be conferred when the High Priest elect is installed, this I consider important, and desire that the Past High Priests of the several Chapters in your District who have received the order of High Priesthood be instructed in the ceremonies thereof, so that, in case you cannot be with them, they may be able to install their officers according to requirement.

VII.—You will notify the Secretary of each Chapter in your District to send to this office one of the blank forms of

application for the degrees and membership, used by said Chapter; and also to make the annual returns promptly, stating at the same time how many meetings have been held by the Chapter during the Masonic year.

VIII.—You will send a copy of this circular letter of instructions to the Secretary of every Chapter in your District, with directions to read in open Chapter, and spread in full upon the Minutes.

IX.—All former regulations inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby countermanded.

Fraternally yours,

WILLIAM C. HAMILTON,

Grand High Priest.

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the
Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania :*

COMPANIONS: The Committee on Correspondence submit herewith their Annual Report, in which they review the proceedings of the following Grand Chapters :

The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, 1879.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland, 1879.

The Grand Chapter of Canada, 1879.

“ “ Quebec, 1878, 1879.

“ “ Nova Scotia, 1876, 1877, 1878.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, 1878, 1879. (6.)

The Grand Chapters of

Arkansas, 1878.

Alabama, 1878.

California, 1879.

Colorado, 1878.

Connecticut, 1879.

Delaware, 1879.

District of Columbia, 1878.

Florida, 1879.

Georgia, 1879.

Illinois, 1878, 1879.

Iowa, 1878.

Indiana, 1878, 1879.

Kansas, 1878, 1879.

Kentucky, 1878.

Louisiana, 1879.

Maine, 1879.

Massachusetts, 1878.

Minnesota, 1879.

Mississippi, 1879.

Michigan, 1879.

Maryland, 1878.

Missouri, 1878.

New Jersey, 1878, 1879.

New York, 1879.

North Carolina, 1879.
 Nevada, 1878.
 New Hampshire, 1879.
 Nebraska, 1878.
 Ohio, 1878.
 Oregon, 1879.
 Rhode Island, 1879.

South Carolina, 1879.
 Tennessee, 1878.
 Texas, 1878.
 Vermont, 1879.
 Virginia, 1878.
 Wisconsin, 1879.
 West Virginia, 1877, 1878. (38)

We are also under many obligations to the following Companions for interesting information on Capitular Masonry abroad :

Comp. William James Hughan, of Truro, England, in relation to the Grand Chapter of England.

Comp. Thomas B. Whytehead, of York, England, for The History of Mark Masonry in England.

Comp. James H. Neilson, of Dublin, Ireland, for The History of Irish Royal Arch Masonry.

All of which will appear in their proper place.

In presenting this Annual Report, we would say we have carefully and with much interest examined such Proceedings as were received from the M. E. Grand Secretary. We have, in cases where we have found nothing of special note, such as the addresses of Grand High Priests, and other local matters, made no comments or extracts. Where it has been found that which was different from our own jurisdiction, we have endeavored to make plain the difference, and, without fear or favor, have criticized; in order that this Committee, acting as the representative of the Grand Chapter, might place upon record its views.

The momentous questions of the day are, 1st, the merging of the Council Degrees with those of the Chapter, and 2d, the status of a Companion Royal Arch Mason suspended from his Master Masons' Lodge for non-payment of dues.

We shall express ourselves fully on these subjects in the review of our sister Grand Chapters.

Grand Chapters.	Date of Organization	Time of Annual Convocations.		Number of Subordinates	Number of Subordinates Making Returns.	Exaltations.	Members.	Admissions and Restorations.	Dimitted.	Suspended or Dropped for Non-payment of Dues.	Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct.	Receipts.	Expenses.	Funds on Hand.	Increase of Members.	Decrease of Members.	Deaths.	Expelled.
Alabama	1827	Tuesday after 1st Monday, December		49	29	47	1,059	27	47	42	2	\$1,082 55	\$1,259 25	\$394 25	10	.	16	1
Arkansas	1851	Thursday bef. 2d Monday, October..		61	31	58	1,483	12	13	14	1	709 65	494 93	336 04	30	.	11	1
California	1851	2d Tuesday, April		49	48	221	2,990	62	73	76	.	5,305 00	4,862 95	3,993 06	93	.	41	.
Canada	1857	2d Wednesday, August.		74	74	334	3,334	28	110	64	.	2,526 20	1,892 85	6,716 66	152	.	36	.
Connecticut	1798	2d Tuesday, May		35	35	102	3,846	38	20	17	4	733 80	478 29	371 28	38	.	53	.
Colorado	1875	Thursday after 3d Tuesday, Sept. .		7	7	36	392	14	8	5	.	392 96	118 08	393 00	34	.	2	1
Delaware	1869	3d Wednesday, January		6	6	26	320	1	3	10	.	284 39	218 08	66 31	12	.	2	1
*Dist. of Col.	1867	2d Wednesday, December		8	8	59	1,052	14	23	74	.	1,212 70	1,298 07	66 31	39	.	14	1
Florida	1847	3d Tuesday, January		16	6	13	192	6	7	19	.	526 00	259 00	267 00	29	.	2	3
Georgia	1822	1th Wednesday, April		46	40	27	1,000	24	63	62	.	2,059 83	2,017 72	42 11	217	.	29	3
Illinois	1850	Last Thursday, October.		168	162	522	10,484	152	308	389	.	3,018 76	3,011 49	6 27	146	.	102	19
Indiana	1845	Wednesday aft. 3d Monday, October.		91	81	174	4,443	21	134	92	6	1,483 52	2,675 02	1,071 64	85	332	61	11
Iowa	1851	2d Tuesday, October.		87	83	299	4,261	53	138	56	35	3,005 91	3,792 81	4,069 37	85	.	35	3
+Kansas	1866	Tuesday bef. 3d Wednesday, October.		32	32	80	1,149	40	36	44	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Kentucky	1817	3d Monday, October.		105	89	160	3,509	51	105	230	.	3,901 00	4,078 90	4,219 18	194	.	62	3
Louisiana	1813	2d Tuesday, February.		29	25	15	1,126	7	21	54	1	1,765 65	1,729 00	72 10	69	.	31	.
Maine	1821	1st Tuesday, May.		42	42	36	1,129	14	81	1	17	1,128 93	1,112 32	1512 94	4	.	49	1
Massachusetts	1798	In December.		68	68	375	9,106	9	44	43	79	2,189 62	1,345 04	1,254 37	99	.	18	3
Michigan	1848	3d Tuesday, January.		101	100	360	7,888	73	185	226	3	4,196 98	1,960 19	7,336 80	162	.	113	53
Minnesota	1859	2d Tuesday, October.		31	31	106	1,623	19	29	37	.	1,182 75	4,918 21	5,342 77	109	.	65	53
Mississippi	1846	3d Monday, January.		73	58	87	1,930	39	70	113	5	2,785 48	2,785 48	403 40	97	.	34	1

* Due Grand Treasurer, \$85.37.

† From Report of 1878.

‡ Also a Charity Fund of \$4,054.

§ Due Grand Treasurer, \$818.15.

Grand Chapters.	Date of Organization.	Time of Annual Convocations.										Number of Subordinates.	Number of Subordinates Making Returns.	Exaltations.	Members.	Admissions and Restorations.	Dimitted.	Suspended or Dropped for Non-payment of Dues.	Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct.	Receipts.	Expenses.	Funds on Hand.	Increase of Members.	Decrease of Members.	Deaths.	Expelled.
Missouri.....	1846	Thursday after 1st Tuesday, May.....	89	75	175	4,217	55	155	92	26	\$4,029 05	\$3,976 25	\$2,894 66	48	63	40	6									
Nebraska.....	1867	3d Tuesday, December.....	15	14	60	683	17	33	10	3	889 00	1,967 71	44 08	2	17	2	2									
Nevada.....	1873	Monday before 2d Tuesday, June.....	8	8	33	391	14	20	65	1	1,203 00	770 25	1,828 31	34	34	10	10									
N. Hampshire.....	1819	3d Tuesday, May.....	19	19	68	2,123	72	20	65	1	582 60	644 53	90 49	80	831	20	3									
*New Jersey.....	1856	2d Wednesday, September.....	35	35	108	2,218	20	59	63	1	1,572 47	1,698 84	4,320 25	16	831	36	10									
New York.....	1798	1st Tuesday, February.....	190	190	733	17,642	163	314	1188	1	15,372 22	12,803 19	187 39	52	4	9	9									
North Carolina.....	1822	1st Tuesday, June.....	136	134	503	8,448	184	171	436	3	2,812 50	2,438 17	1,133 67	103	103	128	10									
Ohio.....	1816	2d Wednesday, September.....	14	14	59	460	5	11	1	3	577 50	1,044 96	244 38	16	16	87	9									
Oregon.....	1860	Friday before 2d Monday, June.....	103	103	505	10,339	137	160	357	15	6,215 04	6,476 23	20,440 85	41	41	128	10									
+Pennsylvania.....	1795	December.....	9	9	32	435	5	23	1	1	638 58	176 00	590 83	29	29	3	3									
Quebec.....	1876	September.....	10	10	18	1,620	2	1	25	1	516 11	492 05	1,794 43	37	37	16	16									
Rhode Island.....	1797	2d Tuesday, March.....	25	25	37	902	9	38	37	12	747 50	994 43	134 58	200	200	11	11									
South Carolina.....	1812	Tuesday after 2d Monday, February.....	93	64	59	3,271	37	72	98	3	1,630 50	2,317 65	828 85	34	34	81	7									
Tennessee.....	1826	November.....	99	92	178	3,756	108	167	23	2	4,387 70	5,028 08	1,602 18	35	35	51	1									
Texas.....	1850	2d Thursday, December.....	25	25	75	1,869	13	22	34	34	429 40	735 87	201 02	6	6	28	1									
Vermont.....	1804	2d Friday, June.....	42	28	98	1,486	47	60	23	2	850 50	740 16	94 62	10	10	16	2									
Virginia.....	1808	Thursday aft. 2d Monday, December.....	12	12	26	465	3	12	42	42	287 00	192 38	2,732 97	65	65	27	1									
West Virginia.....	1871	2d Thursday, November.....	53	53	186	3,133	29	104	4	4	2,727 75	2,338 93	117 80	10	10	3	3									
Wisconsin.....	1856	3d Tuesday, February.....	9	9	17	359	1	21	4	4	126 75	65 30	80,213 91	768	2890	1582	145									
Nova Scotia.....	1869	June.....	2198	2001	6250	131,169	1529	3101	4067	493	\$86,055 14	\$86,489 73	\$80,213 91	768	2890	1582	145									

* Due Grand Treasurer, \$126 37, due Trustees, \$24 79—Total, \$151 16.

+ 3 Mark Lodges in addition.

The foregoing valuable table of statistics we desire to credit to the Report of Comp. Baslow, of Connecticut.

As already mentioned, we now present the report of Comp. William J. Hughan on

THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

TRURO, ENGLAND, 7 Nov., 1879.

DEAR M. E. COMP. MEYER: I shall be pleased to give you a report of our Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England, as the printed proceedings do not reach you. The fact is that the Constitution of the Grand Chapter is different from any other in the world, and to be appreciated must be studied in connection with the struggle for supremacy under the "*Moderns*" and "*Ancients*," and *their Union* in December, 1813.

The "Articles of Union" provided for the official recognition of the degree of "*Holy Royal Arch*,"* but in such a way that it was made virtually and actually the *completion* of the Master Mason's, not as a separate and distinct Degree. The Grand Chapter, it is true, is a separate organization, but only so in part, and is not *independent* of the Grand Lodge. It is an *imperium in imperio*, and in reality is the complement of the Grand Lodge, its chief officers being taken from the latter *Body of Royal Arch Masons*, without any election by the Companions whatever.

In the "*Regulations*" no provision is made for the appointment of Representatives, and all is done that can be to render its character as much after the style and character of the Grand Lodge. Suspension or expulsion in the *latter* means the same in the *former*, and in all matters not especially provided for, the Grand Chapter follows the ruling of the Grand Lodge, and every Chapter has to be attached to some warranted Lodge, and its rank or precedence, number, &c., is determined by that of the Lodge to which it is attached. For this reason the latest number of a Chapter is not indicative of the total number of the Chapters, as the last Charter granted is No. 1611, York; but instead of there being so many Chapters, the total at home and abroad would not exceed 600. The Degrees are thus arranged: 1°, "E. A.;" 2°, "F. C.;" 3°, "M. M.;" 4°, "R. A." (*really completion* of 3°); and then, if *Installed* Masters of a Craft Lodge (*actually* of a Lodge, *not* the P. M., as in (except Pennsylvania) the United States), the Companions may be elected and installed

* *Vide* Hughan's "Masonic Register, page 15.

as 3d, then as 2d, and then as 1st Principals of a Chapter (known as Joshua, Haggai and Zerrubabel respectively), each having a separate ceremony and secrets, &c., and the *order of communication* must be strictly observed.

The Grand Chapter consists of the *present* and *past* Grand Officers, with the three Principals of every Chapter and their past *First* Principals (only) and associate members. As with the Grand Lodge, all the officers are entirely unremunerated, save the Grand Scribe E. (*i. e.*, the *Grand Secretary*), and no "mileage" is ever paid to any one for attendance at any of the meetings of the Body.

This Supreme Chapter was formed in 1817 from the union of the two Grand Chapters under the "*Moderns*" and "*Ancients*," H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex being the *first* Grand Principal Z., the Earl of Zetland the next, followed by the Marquis of Ripon, and on the 5th of May, 1875, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales was obligated and installed as "*First Grand Principal of the Order*," being the *Fourth* to occupy that exalted position from 1817. The Earl of Carnarvon being declared and invested as Pro-Grand Z. (being Pro-G. M.), Lord Skelmersdale Grand H. (being Deputy G. M.) and so on, &c. At these Annual Convocations a "*Committee of General Purposes*" is elected, consisting of twelve members, and by that body the ordinary business of the society is managed, by which means a deal of the usual routine never comes before the Grand Chapter at all, save in the way of appeals, if the decisions should not be considered suitable or legal, when the Grand Chapter finally decides.

Four regular meetings of the Grand Chapter are held in each year, viz: on the first Wednesday in the months of February, May, August and November; the one in May following that of the Grand Lodge in April, when the new Grand Officers are appointed.

In the Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges the jewels of the Craft and Royal Arch Degrees are allowed to be worn, *but no others*, just as in the Grand Chapters and subordinate Chapters those of the Craft and Royal Arch and *no others*.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, the Grand Conclave of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, the Great Priory of the Knights Templar, and the Ancient and Accepted Rite, not being recognized in any way, save that permission is given in the "*Articles of Union*" of 1813 to certain Degrees other than the Craft, to be worked as heretofore, only separate and distinct from the Craft, Grand Lodge and Chapter.

In all other Grand Chapters the *Mark Degree* is recognized and this Degree is moreover worked by authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in the Craft Lodges. In England the Mark Degree is very popular, as also the Degrees of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite," there being *over* 200 Lodges and 80 Chapters of the Rose Croix working under the authority of those two ruling Bodies. The Grand R. A. Chapter of Pennsylvania was the first to recognize the Mark Grand Lodge, and now its certificates are accepted throughout the "wide, wide world."

In the Quarterly Reports of the Grand Chapter there is but little calling for notice in this letter, as they are mainly descriptive of the financial state of the Grand Chapter (which is most healthy) and of the petitions for Warrants, none of which are granted in connection with a Lodge, unless the latter has been in existence two years, save under special circumstances, and the Lodge must consent to the petition before it can be entertained, also no exaltations can occur in England unless the candidates have been Master Masons twelve months at least.

At the Grand Chapter held 6 February, 1868, it was agreed that £2000 (\$10,000) be granted to our Four Great Masonic Charities, to be equally divided between them. The funds of the Chapter, beyond that needed for exigencies, generally exceed £3000 (\$15,000), and are derived from the fees for *Warrants* (5 guineas each), *Exaltations*, *Certificates*, &c. (15 shillings each), *Dispensations*, &c., but no annual dues are exigible, as in the Grand Lodge. Grand Superintendents are appointed to rule over *Provinces* and *Districts* (at *home* and *abroad*), as in the Grand Lodge, and by this means a thorough efficiency and supervision are obtained.

Any questions I shall be happy to answer at any time, and with best wishes to the Grand High Priest and the members of the Grand Chapter,

Believe me, your Friend and Companion,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN,

Representative of the Grand Chapter of Penna. at the Mark Grand Lodge.

We now follow in with the following by Comp. T. B. Whytehead, Z. of Chapter No. 1611, at York, England.

THE HISTORY OF MARK MASONRY IN ENGLAND.

There can be no doubt that the Mark Degree forms one of the closest links in the chain which connects the present

speculative, with the old operative system of Freemasonry. In the old Guild the ceremony of selecting and registering a mark by a newly admitted Craftsman, was only second in importance to that of his first admission into the Society. In using the words Mark Masonry, I must be understood to speak in a general sense, and not of any particular ceremony or ritual, as now carried out in any country. The Degree of Mark Master Mason as now worked, is essentially of modern construction, and some Masonic writers have thought fit to pour contempt upon the Degree in consequence. The whole Masonic system, however, as far as regards its details, is of such comparatively recent construction that any Degree which can claim an origin in the last century must be considered worthy of investigation, and the steady progress of the Mark Degree during the past few years has given it an importance and a prominence which cannot be overlooked.

The wide and interesting subject of Masons' Marks is somewhat beyond the present question, and moreover presents such a large scope as to be quite beyond the limits of a short paper. It is a subject of the deepest interest to Masons and archæologists, and has been treated of elaborately by writers both inside and outside the pale of the Order. In tracing the history of the building sodalities, the study of Masons' Marks is of inestimable value, and from the very earliest period the custom of the selection of a Mark by each and every builder, has been world-wide. It scarcely needs any argument to prove the great importance for the proper selection, approval and registration of each man's mark in an age when records were sparse and writing but little known, and Mackay and others have sufficiently exemplified this and have given examples and quotations from old writers, showing the antiquity of the use of the private mark as a pledge or guarantee of good faith.

The selection of a mark by every Brother appears to have been insisted on with much greater regularity in the Scotch than in the English Lodges, but this may, I think, easily be accounted for by the fact that the Scotch Lodges retained their operative character long after the English Lodges had ceased to contain any but the speculative element. In the minute books of the oldest Lodges in Scotland, the register of marks is usually kept with the greatest regularity, and the choice seems to have been made by the Brother at the time of initiation and payment of fees. There seems to be

no mention of any ceremony, and it is improbable that any special form was observed, still less that any ritual existed until about the end of the last century at the earliest. The mark cypher was early used in England, and in the minute books of the Grand Lodge of *all* England at York, the initials of the titles of the officers present at meetings are sometimes given in this cypher appended to their names. There is no evidence whatever in the York minutes, to show that any ceremony was observed in the conferring of a Mark Degree, nor is any such Degree in any way alluded to as far as I can discover, but that a Mark Degree was in existence in England at the close of the century there is abundant proof. Where then did this Degree come from at the time of its revival as a working Degree? It seems to me probable that it had been re-introduced from Scotland, between which country and the northern counties there was much communication.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland governs the Mark Degree in that country, and it was reported in 1865 by a Committee of that Body appointed to investigate the history of the Mark Degree, that—"In this country from time immemorial and long before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (in 1736) what is now known as the Mark Master's Degree was wrought by the operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry."

Minutes preserved by some of the older English Lodges, show that the Mark Degree was independently worked under the authority of the blue warrant, before the close of the 18th century, but at the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, the Degree was not included in "Pure and Ancient Masonry," unless it was intended that Mark Masonry should form the first step to the Royal Arch (as in Scotland), of which there is no hint. In both Ireland and Scotland the Mark Degree is, and always has been recognized as a part of ancient Masonry, and it is difficult to understand on what ground it was not recognized as such at the union. Many old Masons of high standing have, in my hearing, expressed their regret at the exclusion of the Mark Degree, but a horror of tinkering at the Constitutions has always stood in the way of any alteration, and the danger of interfering with the text of the articles of union would doubtless be very great, although the spirit of them would, I think, not be violated if the 2d Article be considered carefully. To my mind a more liberally devised sentence could scarcely have been constructed.

It is only within a comparatively recent period that any systematic investigation of old Lodge minutes has been made, and even yet these investigations have only been of a very imperfect character. I have no doubt that as time progresses and Brethren see the advantage of careful examination, we shall have unearthed further evidence as to the date at which the Mark Degree came to the front in England.

The earliest record of its working in London that I know of is to be found in the Minute Books of St. Thomas Lodge, No. 142 (London), warranted as 193 under the "Ancients" in 1775. Brother H. C. Levander, the Secretary of that Lodge, has transcribed the record, as follows:

"JUNE 13, 1785.

"The Lodge was opened, the W. M. in the chair; the officers present when the W. M., S. W., and others wished to become Mark Masons and Mark Masters. Brother McCree took the chair and the following were initiated:"

(Then occur several names.)

"MONDAY, Aug. 13, 1787.

"The Lodge was opened, the W. M. in the chair, the officers present when the W. M., S. & J. W.'s and several members desired to become Mark Masons and Mark Masters. Brother James Mackree took the chair and the following Brothers were installed:"

(Here occur the names.)

"MAY 4, 1778.

"Being regular Lodge night the W. M. in the chair as last night, S. and J. Wardens present. The Lodge opened at $\frac{1}{2}$ past seven o'clock, worked in the three Degrees, made the following Brothers Mark Masons as also Mark Master Masons. Opened the Lodge at $\frac{1}{2}$ past seven as above."

(Here occur the names.)

"January 8, 1784.

"The Lodge was opened, the W. M., A. Harmah, in the chair and Brother White, Master-elect, was installed in his office of W. Master for the next six months. (Here occur names of visitors.) Worked to the (blank) Degree, when the following Brothers were made Mark Masons and Mark Masters."

(Here occur names.)

"AUGUST 9, 1777.

"The W. M. with the following Brothers of that Lodge were made Mark Masons and Mark Masters."

(Here occur names.)

"AUGUST 14, 1777.

"Regular Lodge night, the W. M., the Wardens, the Secretary and Treasurer present worked in the First and Second Degrees. Made the following Brothers Mark Masons and also Mark Master Masons. Opened at 6 o'clock."

(Here occur names.)

"NOVEMBER 17, 1777.

"Being a Lodge night of Emergency, the W. M. in the chair, the Wardens present, made the following Brothers Mark Masons, also Mark Master Masons."

(Here occur several names of Brethren from other Lodges.)

It may be noticed that the "marks" appended to the name of each Brother possess little variety, and in many cases the same mark was chosen by two or more Brethren at the same meeting. Out of a total of 77 marks there are only 9 varieties, there being 22 squares, 21 anchors, 10 compasses, 9 columns, 6 keys, 4 balls (or circles), 2 cross pens, 2 plumb-rules, and 1 hour-glass.

In these minutes there are several features to be particularly regarded, the most important of which are, first, that the mark working consisted of two separate Degrees—Mark Man and Mark Master, a fact that has been long in dispute in England; and second, that these Degrees formed an appendage of the Second or Fellow Craft Degree. (See minute of August 14, 1777.) These are well worth noting.

The earliest North of England minute of any distinct Mark working which I have so far been able to procure is to be found in the minutes of the Imperial George Lodge, No. 78, warranted by the "Moderns," in 1752, as No. 92, meeting at Middleton, in Lancashire. It runs thus:

"IMPERIAL GEORGE LODGE, No. 92,

"HARE AND HOUNDS, MIDDLETON, *March 9th* 1809.

"This Lodge was opened in due form at 8 o'clock, in peace and good harmony.

"When the following Brethren were made Mark Masons."

(Here follow names.)

"IMPERIAL GEORGE LODGE, No. 115 (sic).

"HARE AND HOUNDS, MIDDLETON, *February 29th*, 1824.

"Being a Lodge of Emergency for making Mark Masons.

"The Lodge was opened in due form at 3 o'clock.

"Benj. Isherwood was made Mark Mason.

(Then follow other names.)

"This Lodge was closed in peace and good harmony at 5 o'clock."

I believe, that in a short time, I shall be in possession of actual transcripts of earlier Mark minutes in the North of England, but the difficulties in obtaining access to old minutes are very great, and those of inducing local Brethren to make copies, are, as a rule, still greater.

From the published "Directory" of the Minerva Lodge, No. 250, at Hull, which contains a sort of analysis of the old minutes I gather that in 1802 the following Degrees were worked in that Lodge: "Three Degrees of Craft Masonry, Mark Masonry, Royal Arch, Knight Templar, Old English Herodim or Orange Masonry, and Ark, Mark and Link." On enquiring of Bro. M. C. Peck, the Secretary, I gather that no regular Mark minutes were kept, but the marks were entered in the Craft minute book, and there is nothing to prove that the Degree was then worked *in extenso*, and previous to 1853, the W. M. of the Minerva Craft Lodge was (if a Mark Mason) W. M. of the Minerva Mark Lodge (*ex-officio*).

Separate and distinct certificates for Mark Master Masons were issued for many years before distinct Mark Lodges were established and I append one formerly issued by the "Old York" Lodge, at Bradford, which at one time formed an integral portion of the Hope Lodge, held in that town, and which worked under a "Dispensation" from York. In this one the Brother's mark was placed in the centre and the certificate was written according to the taste of the W. M. in the margin.

The York Mark Lodge was one of those Time Immemorial Lodges which was long in recognizing the authority of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, although overtures of reception on favorable terms were early made to it. Its records are very imperfect, and do not extend further back than 1852, and I do not think that it had any existence as a separately worked Degree for any lengthy period. According to the oldest edition of its By-Laws, which I possess, it

is called the "York Lodge of Mark Masons, attached to the Union Lodge, No. 236" (now called the "York" Lodge, 236), and its By-Laws makes the Mastership conditional on membership in the Union Lodge. No doubt at this old centre of Freemasonry there has always been a practice of selecting marks, but there is no evidence of its having been worked as a separate Degree, indeed, the Templar is the only extraneous working beside the Royal Arch, of which we have any recorded evidence at York.

In the minutes of the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 371, at Maryport, in Cumberland, there is an entry dated July 9th, 1844, to the effect that certain Brethren "took the Degree of Mark Master Mason, and had their marks duly registered in the Book of Marks," and Bro. Lamonby says that he has found no earlier entry of the Mark in the counties of Westmoreland and Cumberland. There was no Mark Lodge, however, as we understand the term, and the oldest Mark Lodge in that District, at the present time, was warranted in 1863.

I suspect that south of the Trent, Mark Masonry fell out of fashion at the beginning of this century, and that this was one reason why it was not included as a portion of "Pure and Ancient Masonry at the Union." Thenceforth the Degree must have been preserved in the South by a very slender thread, which would account for the Bon Accord Lodge in London, in 1855, applying to Scotland for a Mark warrant; for the six members who applied for the warrant from the Bon Accord Royal Arch Chapter in Scotland, would scarcely have done so, had they been able to advise with any known established Mark Master's Lodge in London on the subject. It was then, that the Committee of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, of England, took the matter into consideration as to whether the Mark Degree should be taken over by that Body as in Scotland, but that Committee decided that the Mark was a portion of the Fellow Craft Degree, and had no connection with the Arch. That Committee even recommended that the Mark should be added to the Fellow Craft, and the recommendation was accepted by the Grand Lodge of England. Some of the members of Grand Lodge, however, became frightened at the prospect of any change, however slight, regarding it as the thin end of a wedge, and consequently the declared opinion of Grand Lodge was regularly reversed and matters were left in the same condition as before, and in which they have remained ever since.

The Bon Accord Lodge in London was the first body to move in the formation of an independent Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons (Lord Leigh being their head), and they gathered round them, in 1857, the other Lodges in the South and some in the North of England, working the Degree as English Lodges, and formed a Grand Mark Lodge of England. In this they were perfectly constitutional, and were only following the example of the Craft Lodges in 1717. It had been previously agreed that any Mark Lodge in working existence before June, 1856, should be considered a "Time Immemorial" Lodge, and should take rank accordingly. In 1858 most of the Mark Lodges working under warrants from the Grand Chapter of Scotland transferred their allegiance to the Grand Mark Lodge of England, which, from that date, has held an increasingly prosperous existence.

But it is to Scotland that I think we must look for the birthplace of the Mark Degree as a speculative working. No one who has made even the most cursory examination of the remains of ancient ecclesiastical and military buildings could fail to acknowledge that the system of Masons' marks has been in vogue as long as the art of building itself, but between such a system and the speculative system of Mark Masonry there is more difference than between the mediæval Abbey Builders and ourselves as Free and Accepted Masons. The Abbey Builders had a system of speculative teaching, a code of general morality which they taught their initiates, but which, as far as we know, had no special reference to Masons' marks. The mark was selected by a Brother as soon as he had served his time and was made free of the guild, just as the monastic devotee of this day, on assuming the cowl, adopts a name by which he is known amongst the brotherhood. I feel sure that the Mark *Degree* came into a "working" existence towards the close of the last century, when there was a rage for the multiplication of orders, and when, doubtless, it was seen by the leaders of the Craft, as now, that a certain hiatus existed between the Second and Third Degrees. It may even have been the case that originally some kind of mark working, though of course not the same as at present, once formed an integral part or complement of the Second Degree, just as some Masons imagine the Royal Arch did of the Third Degree, and that for the sake of abbreviating the ceremonies, both were divorced and fashioned into separate and distinct workings under newly invented names.

In consequence of the action of a Blue Lodge in Glasgow in the year 1860, which conferred the Mark Degree under its Craft warrant, the Grand Lodge of Scotland felt compelled to examine into the whole question of the status of Mark Masonry, and the result of its inquiries is very important, as showing what conclusion the heads of Masonry in that country came to after careful investigation and abundant evidence. The following was the minute entered into between the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of Scotland, and though rather long is well worth quoting in its entirety :

“The Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter having held a conference with a view to carrying out the remit to them, unanimously agree that what is generally known under the name of the Mark Masters’ Degree was wrought by the operative Lodges of St. John’s Masonry in connection with the Fellow Craft Degree before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. That since that date it has continued to be wrought in the Old Operative Lodges, but in what may be called the Speculative Lodges it never was worked at all—or at all events only in a very few. That this Degree being with the exception of the Old Operative Lodges above mentioned, entirely abandoned by the Lodges of St. John’s Masonry, the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter assumed the management of it as the Fourth Degree of Masonry in order to complete the instruction of their candidates in the preliminary Degrees before admitting them to the Royal Arch. That this Degree, whether viewed as a second part of the Fellow Craft Degree or as a separate Degree, has never been recognized or worked in England, Ireland or the Continent or in America as a part of St. John’s Masonry; and that it is now most desirable that an arrangement may be made which will reconcile the differences between the Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and which will admit of the three first Degrees of St. John’s Masonry being worked in the Lodges in Scotland in a manner similar to that allowed by sister Grand Lodges. Resolve to recommend the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland to enact and declare as follows: I. That all Lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland shall be allowed to work this Degree in virtue of the charters which they already possess. II. That to prevent confusion with Brethren belonging to

Lodges out of this kingdom or with sister Grand Lodges, this Degree, although held by the Grand Lodge to be a second part of the Fellow Craft Degree, shall only be conferred on Master Masöns, and the secrets shall only be communicated in presence of those who have taken it either from a Lodge or Chapter entitled to grant it. III. That the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland shall adopt the same ritual in conferring the Degree, being that now adjusted by their respective committees. IV. That any candidate applying to be admitted to the Royal Arch Degree, if he has received this Degree in a regular Lodge of St. John's Masonry, shall not be required to take it a second time from the Chapter into which he seeks admission, but in event of his not having received it he shall be obliged to take it from that Chapter. V. That as regards the Royal Arch Degrees, this Degree shall be reckoned the Fourth Degree in Masonry. VI. That nothing contained in these regulations shall interfere with the superintendence which the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter claims over Mark Masonry out of Scotland or with the Lodges holding of it in England or abroad."

Now this is a register of opinion of the highest value, and when added to that of the Grand Lodge, of England, in 1856, that the Mark Degree was "not positively essential, but a graceful appendage to the Degree of Fellow Craft," and to the fact that the Mark Degree occupies a similar position in Ireland, to that which it does in Scotland, it gives to the Degree the *imprimatur* as it were, of the highest Masonic authorities in the United Kingdom. It signifies nothing that the Grand Lodge of England declined to take charge of the Degree. That was objected to merely on the technical ground of Article II. of the Articles of Union in 1813, and not because the Grand Lodge of England regarded the Mark Degree as *unworthy* of inclusion in Craft Masonry. The objection was similar to that which now pervades the minds of English churchmen at the idea of any alteration in the Book of Common Prayer. It is felt that if once a breach is made in the rubrics, which have stood the test so many years, there is no telling where it would end.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland refused to recognize the Grand Mark Lodge of England until June of this year, only because they were so convinced that the Degree belonged to the Fellow Craft, that it seemed to them as reasonable to form a Grand Fellow Craft's Lodge as a Grand Mark Lodge,

and it was only when it became quite evident that Grand Lodge of England would never recognize, or take charge of the Degree that they accepted the inevitable. In 1864, the Scotch Committee, before spoken of, sent their adopted report to Grand Lodge and Chapter of England; and asked if those Bodies were prepared either to take over the Mark Degree, or to recognize the Grand Mark Lodge of England, but the reply was in the negative, nor have subsequent conferences and communications altered matters. At the present moment the Grand Mark Lodge of England is so strong and occupies such an independent position that there would be no possible chance of amalgamation with either Grand Lodge, or Grand Chapter, even were such a consummation to be desired by any of those Bodies.

I stated before, that in Scotland were to be found the oldest records of any registration of marks in Lodges now in existence. Of course, when a Brother chose a mark it must necessarily have been different from the mark of any other member of the Lodge, and for that reason it must have been registered in the Books of the Lodge. It is in Scotland that we now find Lodges practicing speculative Masonry, whose records show them to be direct descendants of Operative Lodges existing from very ancient times. In the very earliest records of these Lodges we find the process of the selection of a mark to have been gone through by every Mason admitted, and we also find that as early as the middle of the 17th century, others than Masons were admitted members, showing that even then the speculative element was invading the Lodges. How long that period existed during which the Lodges were both operative and speculative, it would be difficult to decide, because, in the very earliest charges which we possess, not only those collected and published by our Eminent Brother Hughan, but the old mediæval guild charters, all contain allusions which prove that moral, and even Theological teaching entered into the earliest operations of the building guilds. According to the records of a trial which took place in Edinburgh about 1707, being the outcome of a financial dispute between the Edinburgh Journeymen's Lodge and the Mary's Chapel Lodge, it appears that the former Lodge made only Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts, the "Mark Master" being Master of the Lodge. The condition of things in England about that time was very similar since the Third Degree could only be given in Grand Lodge, just as in Edinburgh, it could only be obtained from St. Mary's Chapel Lodge, which occupied

the position to a certain extent of a Grand Lodge in that city. The Mark Master who ruled the Lodge, therefore, was not what we understand now by a "Mark Master," but was simply an Installed Master, and as such, held the register of marks of his Lodge, or, in other words, ruled over the Mark men, or Craftsmen, who formed the ordinary Masons' Lodge. He seems to have been called a "Mark Master," or "over-seer," in distinction to the "Master Mason," who ruled over a Mother Lodge, such as Mary's Chapel. Thus there would seem to have been two classes of Lodges, the lower class, or Mark Lodges owing a kind of allegiance to the Master Masons' Lodges, and this existed up to the commencement of the 18th century. In many of the old Scotch minute books the Brethren appear to have made a rule of appending their marks to their signatures, and I hope our Brother Hughan may see his way some day to publish a work on Mark Masonry, and reproduce therein specimens of the marks used, which, as far as I have been able to examine them, are principally emblematical of the calling in life of the Brother adopting them, such as a shovel for a maltster, &c., or merely a monogram of the Brother's initials.

The present ritual of the Mark Degree wherever worked, has been founded principally upon ancient Craft legends, and is intended not only to illustrate the principles which guided our ancient operative founders, but to instill moral lessons of integrity, faith, hope and gratitude. As such the Degree is valuable. But it does not end here, for Mark Masons in England have taken up a position in regard to practical charity, which, regarding the strength of the Order, places them second to none amongst the Masonic Bodies of the world. It numbers on its roll over 240 numbered Lodges in addition to 10 "Time Immemorial" Lodges without distinction of number. The Grand Master holds 45 votes in the Masonic charities. It has an invested Benevolent Fund of £2000, and a General Fund of £1000. It has an "Educational Branch" of its Benevolent Fund for the purpose of giving supplementary aid in the education of the children of Mark Master Masons in reduced circumstances; to say nothing of the assistance casually rendered by the Lodges, both to local charities, and to the lists of Brethren at the Annual Masonic Charity Festivals.

This alone would be a sufficient *raison d'être* for the existence of the Degree, which has since the formation of the Grand Lodge been ruled over by most distinguished Brethren: Lord Leigh, Lord Carnarvon, Viscount Holmes-

dale, W. W. B. Beach, Esq., the Rev. G. M. Portal, Earl Percy, Lord Limerick, and now Lord Skelmersdale. It has also had the advantage of many energetic officers and none more so than our distinguished Bro. Binckes, the Grand Secretary, whose zeal for the Order is only excelled by that for the Boys' Schools whose needs he so constantly and eloquently advocates.

I wish I could have given you a more connected and detailed paper, but there is so very little ground to work upon and records are so meagre in England that, without bringing in the sister kingdom, I fear any history of the Mark Degree might be summed up in the words—there is none to speak of.

T. B. WHYTEHEAD,

P. M. York Mark (T.I.).

From Certificate formerly issued by the Old York Mark Lodge (Bradford).



IRISH ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

BY COMP. JAMES HORNER NEILSON (DUBLIN).

Up to the year 1830 the Royal Arch Chapters of Ireland seem to have worked under the laws of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

The earliest known laws and regulations for the Irish Royal Arch are those of 1830. Few copies of these now exist. From the copy in our possession, we find they consist of only five octavo pages of print. From these laws we also learn that, the Grand Chapter consisted of three Grand Principals or Grand Masters, "all Past Grand Masters, 3 Sojourners, 2 Scribes, 1 High Priest, all Companions who have past any of these offices, the 3 Grand Masters of every

“regular subordinate Chapter, the Past Grand Master of “these Chapters.” To these were added, on account of their rank in Craft Masonry, Past Grand Masters, P. D. G. M.’s and the two Grand Wardens for the time being (provided they were Companions of the Order), with a Grand Pursuivant and Tyler. The Grand Master of the Craft was to be the 1st Grand Master of Grand Royal Arch Chapter; the D. G. M. to be 2d G. M.; the 3d Grand Master and all other officers to be elected by the Grand R. A. C. The meetings of Grand Chapter were held on 3d Wednesdays in February, May, August and November.

“At the May meeting the 3 Grand Masters were inducted “to their respective chairs, each of them having been previously installed, after which all the *others were likewise “inducted.”*

On the 16th day of November, 1864, the names of these officers were changed to King, High Priest, Chief Scribe, Captain of the Host, Sup. of the Tabernacle, Royal Arch Capt., Capt. Scarlet Vail, Capt. Purple Vail, Capt. Blue Vail.

The laws being still that:

“*The Grand Master of Freemasons of Ireland* (if a Past “King or Past 1st Principal) to be King.

“The King, Past Kings, High Priests and Chief Scribes “of all Subordinate Chapters are members of the Grand Royal “Arch Chapter.”

On the 3d day of May, 1876, the right of the Grand Master of Freemasons of Ireland to be Grand King was changed, and the Grand King is now annually elected like all other Grand Officers.

The Grand Officers are now nominated at August meeting of Grand Chapter and elected at November meeting, and installed at the February meeting.

The other officers of the Royal Arch Chapters are:

The Grand Chaplain, the Grand Registrar, the Grand Janitor, and the Tylers.

Subordinate Chapters are constituted by warrants granted by the Royal Arch Chapter. These warrants are obtained by the presentation of a petition signed by at least nine Royal Arch Masons, who must be also Mark Master Masons and Master Masons of at least five years’ standing.

The Irish Royal Arch Degree is now composed of the following degrees: Excellent, Super Excellent, Virtual Master and Royal Arch, which were all originally worked separately in Ireland. The qualifications for the Degree are,

being a Master Mason of at least *six* months' standing and a Mark Master Mason. The course to be pursued in seeking admission to the Degree is, the candidates being proposed by a member of a Royal Arch Chapter for exaltation in his Chapter, this being seconded, is either accepted or rejected by the Chapter, and if accepted, the candidate's name goes out in the summons for the next meeting of the Chapter for ballot (and there must be at least seven days between proposal and ballot). If two black *beans* appear in the ballot-box the candidate is rejected and cannot be again proposed in the same Chapter for at least a period of six months, but may be in any other Chapter; but if only one, the candidate is accepted. If the candidate be proposed in a Chapter meeting in the city of Dublin, his name has, in addition, to go before what is called the Committee of Inspection. This committee consists of the Grand Officers and the King of every subordinate Chapter meeting in Dublin or his qualified proxy, five of whom form a quorum. The candidate's name being inserted in the committee summons, at the committee the name is again subjected to vote, and in case a majority are against the candidate's admission, the name cannot come again before the committee for a period of at least six months.

The Irish Chapters meeting generally only quarterly, it will be seen that the time which generally elapses between the candidate being proposed and exalted is six months, and consequently the candidate is generally a Master Mason of at least twelve months' standing before he can be a Royal Arch Mason.

The difference in name of the officers of an Irish and Pennsylvanian Grand Chapter will be seen from the following table:

Pennsylvanian Officers Names.

High Priest,
King,
Scribe,
Captain of the Host,
Principal Sojourner,
Royal Arch Capt.
Masters of the 3 Vails.

Irish Officers Names.

(Every subordinate Chapter must have 9 officers.)

1. King,
2. High Priest,
3. Chief Scribe,
4. Capt. of the Host,
5. Superintendent of the
Tabernacle,
6. Royal Arch Capt.,
7. Capt. of the Scarlet Vail,
8. " Purple Vail,
9. " Blue Vail.

The following officers are not compulsory in subordinate Chapters in Ireland, but few Chapters are without them :

Treasurer,
Secretary,
Chaplain,
Pursuivant,
Tyler.

Treasurer,
Registrar,
Chaplain,
Janitor (an honorary officer),
Tyler (a paid officer).

The following Pennsylvanian officers are unknown in Irish Royal Arch Chapters:

2 Masters of Ceremonies.

A Guide.

An Organist.

The Officers of the Subordinate Chapters are elected annually, and their names must be returned to the Registrar of Grand Chapter on or before the 24th of October in each year, so that the names may be submitted to the November meeting of Grand Chapter for approval.

The only restriction in the election of officers in Subordinate Chapters is in that of King, as no Companion is eligible for that office unless he is or has been the Master of a Craft Lodge.

The Grand Officers for the year 1880, are :

King, Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D.

High Priest, John Fox Goodman.

Chief Scribe, George Hill Major.

Captain of Host, Rev. J. A. Galbraith, F. T. C. D.

Sup. of Tab., George J. Norman de Arcy, J. P.

Royal Arch Capt., Rev. Benjamin Gibson, A. M.

Capt. of Scarlet Vail, John Hodges.

Capt. of Purple Vail, Robert W. Griffin, LL.D.

Capt. of Blue Vail, Charles Foot.

Chaplain, Rev. Thomas J. Welland, A. M.

Treasurer, Maxwell C. Close, D. L., M. P.

Registrar, Samuel B. Oldham.

Janitor, William J. Welland.

SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND—1879.

The Reporter for March 1879 is No. 9, of Vol. II, has been received.

The business of the Grand Chapter is first presented to and

considered in a Supreme Committee composed of the first eight elective Grand Officers, the five Z. or High Priests of the Edinburgh Chapters, and six Companions. This Committee elects its own Chairman for the year.

At the meeting of April 18, 1878, the Grand Secretary laid before the Committee, a recommendation from the High Priests of the Glasgow Chapters in favor of a Companion as Provincial Grand Superintendent or District Deputy of that Province. The Grand Secretary was directed to write to the Provincial Grand Secretary of Glasgow, and request him to issue instructions to each Chapter in Glasgow to meet on a certain day to consider said recommendation, and say if they concur in the same.

The Grand Chapter fixed the minimum fee for exaltation at £2 2 about \$10.50. Much lower than any in this country, and in our opinion too cheap.

The Grand Chapter of Scotland in 1872 discarded the Past Master's Degree from the Capitular System. Warrants were granted for Chapters at Durban, Natal.

The Grand Chapter refused to allow Alexandra Chapter, at Prince Edward's Island, to unite with the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

We should say that Alexandra Chapter should Masonically have the permission to unite.

The following correspondence is reported :

"Eo die.—The Grand Scribe E. laid before the Supreme Chapter his letter and the replies from the Representatives at the Sister Grand Chapters in America and Canada, as to the working of the Past Master's Degree in these countries.

3 NORTH ST. DAVID STREET,
EDINBURGH, 21st September, 1877.

"M. E. AND DEAR SIR AND COMPANION.—At the Quarterly Communication held on the 19th instant, of the Supreme Chapter a memorial was presented from the Operative Chapter, Aberdeen, No. 41, as to difficulties experienced by Members of the Chapter in getting admittance to Royal Arch Chapters in America, in consequence of these Members not being in possession of the Degree called 'The Past Master.' It was stated that admittance was refused to Chapters, even while working in the Royal Arch Degree,

unless the Aberdeen Companions took and paid for the Past Master's Degree. The Supreme Chapter resolved to bring the matter under the notice of their Representatives in America, to see if any arrangement can be made—and I accordingly now address you on the subject.

“In doing so, I would explain as regards Great Britain that the Degree of Past Master never was worked in the Grand Chapter of England, nor I think of late, by the Grand Chapter of Ireland. In both of these countries, however, there is a Degree called the Installed Masters, which is given to the actual Master of a Craft Lodge. In Scotland, until some years ago, the Installed Master Degree in the Craft Lodges did not exist, and the Royal Arch Chapters worked the Past Master's Degree.

“This state of matters was found to be very inconvenient, and accordingly the Grand Lodge of Scotland adopted the Installed Master's Degree, and the Supreme Chapter gave up the working of the Past Master's Degree.

“In these circumstances, we cannot of course confer the Degree, but there appears no reason why our Members should not be freely admitted to Royal Arch Chapters which do confer it, when the Chapters are open in the Royal Arch Degree.

“The case of an English Royal Arch Mason here is somewhat analogous. In that country the Mark and Excellent Degrees are not worked in the Chapters as they are here, and of course an English Royal Arch Mason could not be admitted into a Mark or Excellent Lodge, but whenever the Chapter is opened he is admitted freely. It appears to the Supreme Chapter that you might be able to induce the Grand Chapters in America to make some such arrangement as the following, viz: To admit our Companions to the Mark and Excellent Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters, but not to the Past Master Lodges. It would be an obligation to the Supreme Chapter if you will give this matter your consideration, and do what you can to bring about a satisfactory arrangement. I remain,

“M. E. and Dear Sir and Companion,

“Yours fraternally,

“(Signed) LINDSAY MACKERSY, *G. S. E.*

“*Rep. G. Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

“CHARLES E. MEYER, Esq., Rept. Sup. Chapter of Scotland at Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States.”

PHILADELPHIA, 13th October, 1877.

“MY DEAR BROTHER MACKERSY.—Your letter of 21st of September duly received, and I hasten to reply to it. I will briefly and fully as I can explain to you the working of American Royal Arch Masonry. We here recognize the Degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason.

“There is no trouble or want of uniformity, except with the Degree of Past Master, or as we call it here, ‘Passing to the Chair.’ In Pennsylvania the Degree is controlled by the Grand Lodge of F. and A. Masons. A Brother desiring to pass the Chair, except by election, must petition the Grand Master for that purpose. This petition has to be recommended by the W. M., S. W., and J. W. of the Lodge of which the Brother is a member, recommending him for that honor, the Secretary affixing the seal of the Lodge. The Grand Master, upon the payment of the fee, 10 cents,* and being satisfied that the Brother had been six months a Master Mason, and is able to open and close a Lodge, issues the dispensation, and the ceremony is the same as for one who has been elected to serve his Lodge as Master.

“There is this difference between Pennsylvania and the other Grand Chapters in America. The candidate receives the Degree under the Chapter Warrant, and as a virtual Past Master, cannot sit in a Lodge of installed Masters or actual Past Masters.

“We have a law in Pennsylvania that prohibits a Chapter from conferring any of the capitular Degrees, except upon one who has been elected therein.

“The Grand High Priest has authority at sight to confer the Degrees, but he has no control over nor can he confer the Past Master Degree, therefore Companions from Scotland who are not in possession of the Past Master’s Degree, cannot visit our Chapters.

“The Chapters under the General Grand Chapter of the U. S. (Pennsylvania does not belong to it), have the control of the Past Master, and Chapters subordinate to it have the right to confer it on foreign Companions. Therefore your Aberdeen Companions can be admitted there and take the Degree and be healed as they call it.

“In Pennsylvania we will admit your Companions in our Mark Lodges, and if they have passed the Chair into our M. E. Masters’ Lodges and Chapters.

“I enclose you a leaf taken from the Voice of Masonry, re-

* A slight mistake, \$10—Ten Dollars was written. C. E. Meyer.

ferring to the matter. I will do what I can to have the matter put into such a shape as will be satisfactory to your Supreme Grand Chapter.

“With kindest regards,

“Your Brother,

“CHARLES E. MEYER,

“*Rep. of Grand Chapter, Scotland.*

“To L. MACKERSY, G. S. E.

“*Rep. of Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.*”

Replies were also received from Comp. S. R. Sircom, of Nova Scotia and Comp. T. J. Corson.

This Grand Chapter has fees of honor; Companions on election to the office of High Priest, 62 cents; to King and Scribe 25 cents each.

Sir Michael R. Shaw-Stewart, Bart., Grand First Principal.

Lindsay Mackersy, W. S., Chambers, 3 North St. David Street, Edinburgh, Grand Scribe E.

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF IRELAND— 1879.

Four pages contain all that this Grand Chapter gives for the information of the Craft. Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D., King, is the presiding officer.

“The fee for a Warrant is Ten pounds, if to be held in the Dublin District; Five pounds, if for a Country or Regimental Chapter, which fee includes the registration of the nine Companions named in the Warrant, all of whom must be Mark Master Masons at least five years registered as Master Masons; and being at the time subscribing members to some Lodge under the Grand Lodge of Ireland. The Companion named as King must be either the actual Master or Past Master of a Craft Lodge.

“The Degree of Mark Master Mason is worked under the jurisdiction and protection of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and can only be conferred under Royal Arch Warrants. Candidates must have obtained their Grand Lodge Certificates. The fee for registration and certificate as Mark Mason is Half-a-Crown.”

Samuel B. Oldham, Grand Registrar, Freemason's Hall, Dublin.

CANADA—1879.

The Twenty-second Annual Convocation held in the City of Guelph, on August 13, 1879. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, Grand Zerubbabel, presiding. 40 Chapters represented.

The Grand Zerubbabel reported the following decision, and a most strange one it is :

“That suspension by a Craft Lodge, whether Grand or Subordinate, had no force in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, this Order alone having the right to pass judgment upon any of its members.”

For the reason that none of the members of a Chapter were willing to assume the duties of Janitor, the Grand Zerubbabel issued a dispensation to install a Brother as a serving Companion without payment of fees.

Is not this in violation of the By-Laws of the Chapter, which prescribes a certain fee to be paid for exaltation? If the By-Law requires a fee, can the Grand Zerubbabel suspend that By-Law? We hold that he cannot issue a dispensation to suspend the action of the By-Laws of any Chapter, unless there is a provision authorizing it, and he has no such inherent power.

It was resolved that Lodges of Mark Master, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters may be opened and worked without the Chapter being first opened. If we are not mistaken, the Warrant is granted to a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons with authority to confer therein and thereunder these several Degrees, and unless the Chapter is first opened and lowered to the subordinate Degrees they cannot be conferred.

A committee was appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to the retiring Grand High Priest.

The Report on Correspondence, by Comp. Henry Robertson, reviews the Proceedings of forty-one Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1878, among the number. He says “WE DO NOT REGARD GOOD STANDING AS A MASTER MASON AS ESSENTIAL TO CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP,” and further, says :

“Some Brethren appear to have a holy horror at the idea

of sitting in a Chapter with a Mason suspended by his Lodge; as if there were contamination in the very air of the room while he was there. We do not see anything so very terrible about it. If he is very bad or really deserves punishment, the Chapter can easily take action and get rid of him. But if, by any possibility, he should have been harshly treated by the Lodge (and we have known such cases), we can then sympathize with him in the Chapter, and not perpetuate a wrong."

Daniel Spry, Toronto, Grand Zerubbabel.

Daniel McLellan, Hamilton, Grand Scribe E.

QUEBEC—1878-1879.

The Second Annual Convocation was held in Montreal, September 25th, 1878.

Most Excellent John H. Graham, Grand Zerubbabel, presiding. Eight Chapters represented.

The sum of \$500 was donated to this young Grand Chapter by the parent Body, the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Comp. James T. McMinn furnishes the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-one Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1877, included.

Of Pennsylvania, he says:

"From the perusal of the Proceedings we can fully agree with our esteemed Companion, Henry Robertson, of Canada, who says, referring to Pennsylvania, 'Their ways and usages are peculiar to themselves, and different from those of all other Grand Chapters.'"

Then Comp. McMinn, "we three do agree." *We own we are all peculiar*—Comp. Robertson for instance, does not regard a Master Mason's good standing in his Lodge as essential to Chapter membership, and your peculiarities, Comp. McMinn, and mine—well, the least said about them the more agreeable it will be.

We are glad to find that Comp. McMinn has been continued on the Correspondence Committee.

J. Hamilton Graham, Richmond, Grand Zerubbabel.

James T. McMinn, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.

NOVA SCOTIA—1876-1877-1878.

The Eighth Annual Convocation was held at Halifax, June 5, 1877.

Most Excellent Comp. Charles J. Macdonald, Grand High Priest, presiding. Eight Chapters represented. Business only of local nature.

The Ninth Annual Convocation was held at Halifax, June 4, 1878.

Most Excellent Comp. Benjamin Curren, High Priest, presiding. Eight Chapters represented.

An amendment to the Constitution was offered, exempting ordained ministers of the Gospel from the payment of exaltation fees.

It is neither right nor just, nor Masonic that any one should be admitted free. There is no caste or condition recognized in Masonry, the poor man and the rich, the prince and mechanic, all meet on an equality. Whatever of worldly titles designate the man, is left outside the tiled door. He is a candidate and there should be no favoritism or partiality shown in collecting the prescribed fees. It is almost an insult to the clergy to make them feel that they come in as beggars, or dependants, or favorites. The object sought to be accomplished is laudable, but we have found that what you get gratuitously or cheaply, is held lightly or cheap, and that for which we pay the most is valued the most.

It was declared that a Chapter cannot work with a less number than seven members being present.

The Grand Chapter wisely decided that the power of issuing dispensations is solely the prerogative of the Grand High Priest, and could not be delegated to any one else.

We notice that Most Excellent Comp. I. R. Sircom is the Representative of Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, near this Grand Chapter. Comp. Sircom told us several years ago that he had removed permanently to Boston, Mass.

Alexandra Chapter, No. 180, Register of Grand Chapter of Scotland, surrendered its Warrant and applied to and

received a Warrant from Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia. Matters will soon become complicated, as will be seen under the head of Scotland, that the Grand Chapter of Scotland refused its permission to do so.

William A. Hessen, Halifax, Grand High Priest.

James Gossip, Halifax, Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES—1879.

Proceedings received of Half-yearly Communications, held December 3d, 1878, and June 3d, 1879.

The Grand Mark Lodge exemplifies the teachings of the Mark Degree by frequent and liberal grants of charity.

The Benevolent fund having reached \$5000—£1000, by-laws were passed to make the fund available in assisting in the education of the children of Mark Master Masons who have been at least three-years subscribing members of some Mark Lodge under the English Constitution.

The following discussion in relation to certain Orders and Degrees not recognized by the 1812 Articles of Union took place :

“Grand Secretary read Recommendation (*e*):

“‘That the Grand Master be authorized to take charge of certain other Orders and Degrees connected with Freemasonry, under such conditions as the General Board may from time to time recommend.’

“Brother James Stevens, P. G. J. O., moved the adoption of the recommendation.

“Brother Sir H. St. John Halford, P. G. J. W., seconded it.

“The M. W. G. M. M. M., asked whether it would not be as well to have some explanation of this subject.

“Grand Secretary said the explanation was simply this. Application had been made to the General Board from time to time with a request that certain ‘side degrees,’ as they were generally called, should be more or less associated with the jurisdiction of the Mark Grand Lodge. He might perhaps quote the Order of St. Laurence, which many of the Brethren present had some acquaintance with, which was acquiring a little greater importance than had hitherto attached to

it. A desire had been expressed that there should be some governing body connected with that Order, and it was thought advisable to avoid a multiplication of Masonic supreme jurisdictions. It was thought that if a Degree was worth preserving at all it might be as well preserved by the Mark Grand Lodge. The same was said of other Degrees, among which was the Degree of Royal Ark Mariner, and the Board thought it advisable not to enter into minute details, but when such applications were made to them they might after considering the applications advise the Grand Master as to whether they should be taken under the protection of Grand Mark Lodge. Discussions upon them in Grand Lodge were not only impolitic in themselves but they could not be carried out properly, because if members of Grand Lodge were not members of the particular Order it was not possible that they could be discussed in open Lodge, as they would involve the disclosure of signs and words. The General Board which was partly nominated by the Grand Master and partly elected, would never recommend Grand Lodge to take up any Degree which had not some recommendation more or less substantial to justify them in advising the Grand Master to take it up. He hoped his Lordship would be of opinion that in asking for this general power the Board had done both wisely and well.

“Brother T. F. Halsey, G. J. W., said if Grand Lodge thought it necessary he would recommend an amendment that would bring the suggestion on the agenda paper in harmony with the recommendation of the report of the General Board. He would suggest that after the word ‘recommend’ there should be inserted the words ‘and Grand Mark Master may approve.’

“Grand Secretary said the recommendation in the printed paper was that ‘the Grand Master be authorized,’ not ‘the Grand Master shall.’ If the Grand Master refused the recommendation of the Board he had the power to do so ; but the recommendation gave power to act to the General Board. It was not compulsory, and he thought there could be no objection to that.

“Brother H. C. Levander, G. R., did not think there would be any objection on the part of the General Board to Brother Halsey’s amendment.

“Brother C. J. Smith, P. Pro. G. D. of C., Sussex, said he viewed the recommendation with much disfavor. Throughout the land the Mark Degree did not stand so free from

dangers as the Brethren would desire. If they took these Degrees under their wing they would add to their dangers. They had better follow out their own Degree, and endeavor to harmonize it with the Craft as much as possible, not hamper it with taking up these Degrees, which were of less importance than the Mark Degree.

“The M. W. G. M. M. M. said that before putting the motion he did not think he should be discharging his duties as occupying the chair if he did not point out to the Grand Lodge that they were going to take a very serious step indeed; it might be a step for good, or it might not. He remembered the discussions which took place some time ago as regarded the reception of one Degree; but the power now proposed was a much greater power than that; it was giving in fact an unlimited power to the General Board and the Grand Master. It was his duty to point out that the proposed power was a very extensive power, practically unlimited; and though it would be in most worthy hands to exercise it, it might, after it had been exercised, possibly give rise to discussions in Grand Lodge, and cavils as to the manner in which the Grand Master and the Board had exercised their discretion, which might be inconvenient to Grand Lodge and injurious to the Degree of Mark Masonry. He only mentioned this to Grand Lodge; he presumed that the General Board had well discussed the subject.

“Grand Secretary said the strong argument in favor of the recommendation was that it would prevent the multiplication of Grand Lodges over small Degrees; but when he said that, he might add that there was no very strong feeling among the Board on the matter, and they were entirely in the hands of the Grand Lodge.

“The M. W. G. M. M. M. said it appeared to him that it was a very large power. The reasons have been explained why the General Board did not insert the names of any specific Orders; still he should almost venture to express a hope that this might be referred back to the General Board for reconsideration. He did so, because he really felt great responsibility in occupying the chair when a motion was put which he thought perhaps might have an effect hereafter much more extended than they dreamt of at the present time. If it were referred back to the General Board they might more nearly specify the nature of the Degrees proposed to be taken, and not leave it so open in its operation as at present.

“Brother H. C. Levander, G. R., said, in the absence of the President he was perfectly ready to accept this ruling, and have the matter referred back to the General Board for reconsideration.

“The M. W. G. M. M. M. asked Brother Levander whether he would withdraw the recommendation, or have it referred back.

“Brother H. C. Levander, G. R., said he would wish it referred back (cries of ‘No, no’).

“Brother James Stevens, P. G. J. O., as the mover of the recommendation, begged to withdraw it. He would be very sorry to divide Grand Lodge on this question. It had worked well in other Degrees to have them under the jurisdiction of Grand Mark Lodge, as it had been found better to have them under this jurisdiction than that they should have Grand Bodies of their own. Nevertheless, he would withdraw this recommendation.”

We have given the debate in full, so that the Companions can see the thoughts of our English Brethren on this subject of merging degrees not recognized by their Constitutions.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was held February 18th, 1879, for the purpose of voting an address of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of the death of the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse.

During six months prior to March 31st, 1879, ten new Warrants were issued, six hundred and forty certificates issued, and 12,413 memberships reported.

The Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland acknowledged the Grand Mark Lodge, June 18th, 1879.

Lord Skelmersdale, Grand Master.

Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary, 2 Red Lion Square, London, W. C.

ARKANSAS—1878.

Annual Convocation held in Little Rock, October 10th, 1878, Comp. M. M. McGuire, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding. Owing to the small attendance the Grand Chapter was adjourned to January 9th, 1879, at which the Deputy

Grand High Priest again presiding, ten Chapters were represented.

The death of Grand High Priest Jordan was announced in fitting words.

Comp. E. H. English, Past General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, presented a report on the proposed merging of the Cryptic and Capitular Degrees. We cull the following:

“That the General Grand Chapter of the United States has long since disclaimed any jurisdiction over these Degrees, and while they cannot be conferred by, or in, Chapters, without a violation of a provision of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, they may in this jurisdiction, be placed under the control of the Grand Chapter of this State, by consent of the Grand Council, and worked by its direction and authority, in Councils of Royal and Select Masters, appended to the several Chapters, as the Degrees were originally worked in this State, and as they are now worked in several of the States in Grand Councils have transferred the jurisdiction of them to the Grand Chapters, and dissolved.”

The plan adopted was:

“*First.*—Appended to each Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction, may be opened a Council of Royal and Select Master Masons, and the Degrees of Royal and Select Master Masons conferred therein, subsequent to the Degree of Royal Arch Masons, the officers of the Chapter corresponding in rank to those of the Council; a separate record of the proceedings of the Council to be kept by the Secretary of the Chapter when acting as recorder of the Council.

“*Second.*—All Royal Arch Masons, members of the Chapter in good standing at the date of the transfer, and all Royal Arch Masons subsequently exalted in the Chapter, remaining affiliated and in good standing, may receive the Degrees in the Council, appended thereto, without further ballot.

“*Third.*—Royal Arch Masons dimitted from other Chapters, who have not received the Degrees of Royal and Select Master, may, after becoming affiliated, receive the Degrees in the Council appended to the Chapter affiliating them.

“*Fourth.*—All Council Masons in good standing, may sit in a Council appended to a Chapter, whether members of

the particular Chapter to which the Council is appended, or not.

“*Fifth.*—In Chapters where there is not a sufficient number of Select Masters, and where a sufficient number cannot conveniently be assembled from neighboring Chapters, to open a Council, a competent Companion may, by request of the High Priest of the Chapter, communicate the Degrees to a sufficient number of Companion Royal Arch Masons, members of the Chapter, to open the Council, but thereafter the Degrees must be properly and fully conferred in the Council.

“*Sixth.*—The ritual for the Degrees shall be that adopted by, and now in force in the Grand Council, and no other shall be tolerated.

“*Seventh.*—Each Companion, receiving the Council Degrees, shall pay the sum of four dollars (two for each Degree), which shall go into the treasury of the Chapter.

“*Eighth.*—Upon the adoption of this report and plan of consolidation by the Grand Chapter and Grand Council, each Council in this jurisdiction, on receipt of instructions from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, shall promptly and properly balance its books and forward them, with all their papers, seal and charter, to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter for safe keeping.

“The paraphernalia for working the Degrees, the moneys and all property not herein excepted, shall become the property of, and be delivered to the Chapter where the Councils are located, and the receipt of the High Priest for the same, forwarded to the Secretary of the Grand Chapter.

“*Ninth.*—No Companion who has been suspended for dues to his Council, shall be permitted to sit in a Council until his dues are paid.

“*Thirteenth.*—Suspension or expulsion for un-Masonic conduct from the Chapter, shall operate as a suspension or expulsion from the Council appended thereto.

“*Fourteenth.*—In Royal Arch diplomas issued by a Chapter, it may be stated, if such be the fact, that the Companion is also a Royal and Select Master, and member of the Council appended to the Chapter.

“*Fifteenth.*—To avoid the expense of separate meetings, the Council may be opened at any regular or called meeting of the Chapter, after the business of the Chapter is disposed of.

“*Sixteenth.*—No dues shall be charged for membership in the Council.

“Seventeenth.—When a Companion affiliates with the Chapter, he shall be treated, if a Royal and Select Master, as thereby affiliated with the Council appended to the Chapter.

“Eighteenth.—The Grand Chapter shall have power and authority to make all further regulations necessary for the government of the Councils appended to Chapters subordinate to it.”

All of which amounts to the opening and working of a number of clandestine Councils without any lawful governing power.

It was reported that St. John's College had been put on a footing which gave promise of its speedy revival and of increased usefulness to the Craft and community, and that provision had been made for the education free of charge of thirty Masonic students of both sexes.

M. M. McGuire, Dardanelle, Grand High Priest.

Luke E. Barber, Little Rock, Grand Secretary.

The following is a novel way to get around a Constitutional requirement:

“The Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Arkansas, will be held at the Masonic Temple, in the City of Little Rock, commencing Thursday, 9th day of October, 1879, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at which time it is suggested by the M. E. Grand High Priest, that a few only of the subordinate Chapters meet, and adjourn over until the Thursday preceding the Fourth Tuesday in November, and it is ordered that notice thereof be given by printing such suggestion on the cover of the Proceedings.

ALABAMA—1878.

Annual Convocation held in Montgomery, December 3, 1878.

Comp. James Milton, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding. Thirty Chapters represented.

A Committee was appointed to report a plan of endowment or a beneficiary scheme amounting to \$1000, to be paid to the heirs of all deceased Royal Arch Masons who partici-

pate therein, which we predict will surely end in trouble and heartburnings.

Comp. Palmer J. Pillins reports on Correspondence, in which Pennsylvania for 1877 receives fraternal notice.

James Harvey Joiner, Talladega, Grand High Priest.

Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA—1879.

The Annual Convocation held in San Francisco, April 8, 1879, was opened by Comp. John Mills Browne, Grand High Priest. Forty-two Chapters represented.

Very proper was the action of the Grand High Priest in the following:

“I did not approve of a proposed amendment to the By-Laws of San Francisco Chapter, No. 1, authorizing the election of three Trustees, with power and duty to draw from the Treasurer all sums above five hundred dollars, the same to have an immediate deposit in some savings bank selected by the Chapter, from which no money exceeding the sum of one hundred dollars should be drawn except by a resolution of the Chapter, the Trustees to execute a joint and several bond to the High Priest in the sum of one thousand dollars each, together with other provisions.

“I saw no necessity for the creation of a Board of Trustees to act as custodians of the funds, this being the office of the Secretary and Treasurer, and these officers ought to be selected with reference to ability and integrity, and each can be required to give sufficient bonds for the faithful execution of their trust. The Chapter can, by a resolution, determine the disposition of its funds, at any time, and in any manner, deemed most expedient. For these reasons, together with the desirability of preserving as far as practicable the uniformity of the code, my approval was not granted.”

If such By-Law had been approved, the next thing in order would be a supervisor or custodian of the Trustees.

Among his other decisions we note:

“During the year I decided: That a Companion not a member of a Chapter is not entitled to and cannot receive a Grand Chapter Diploma;

“That a Companion, after dimitting from his Lodge, under the impression that membership was not essential to good standing in the Chapter, and after being notified that membership in a Lodge was necessary, and consequently was returned as excluded, was only chargeable with dues to the Chapter from the time of affiliation with the Lodge; that the act of affiliation with the Lodge (no further action than the above having been taken by the Chapter) reinstated him in the Chapter;

“That all questions in the Chapter, except elections of officers, voting for candidates for the Degrees, or for membership, and in Masonic trials, shall be decided *viva voce* or by a show of hands;

“That the ballot is strictly secret and inviolable, nor should any attempt be made, in any manner, to discover the Companion who may have cast a negative ballot, for no Companion can be required to divulge his vote, nor to assign reasons therefor, but can exercise the unquestionable right of balloting in the negative as often as the occasion is present demanding, in his opinion, such a vote;

“That there is no power vested in the Grand High Priest to grant a dispensation to re-ballot on the application of a rejected candidate, that matter being wholly within the province of the Chapter in which he was rejected. (See Sec. 1, Art. XVII. of the Constitution.)

“In the absence of any express provision in which that clause of the section is to be made available, and the evident intention of its framers carried into effect, without injustice to the rights of individuals, and best calculated to promote the harmony of the Chapter, which in no wise should be jeopardized, I would recommend—

“*First.* That notice in writing be given in stated meeting that the petition of the rejected applicant would be presented at the next regular meeting of the Chapter.

“*Second.* Upon the reading of such notice, the High Priest shall direct the Secretary to notify each and every member of the Chapter of such intended application, and request his presence to vote upon the consideration of the same.

“*Third.* At such subsequent meeting, on a motion formally made to re-submit the petition, if the vote be *unanimous* in favor thereof, the petition can be again received and referred, the same as if no previous action had been taken.

“I was informed that a Companion had applied for membership repeatedly and was as often rejected, and still per-

sisting, his application was, on motion, laid on the table. Exception was taken by a member, and my opinion solicited. I replied that a Companion has the right to renew his application for affiliation after each rejection, and this may continue indefinitely. His application is entitled to, and should receive, a respectful treatment. A vote to lay the application on the table is un-Masonic and out of order. I directed the High Priest to cause the petition to be taken from the table, referred to a proper Committee, and upon its report to dispose of the case."

Referring to the resolution submitted by this Committee to our Grand Chapter at the February Communication regarding suspension in Lodge for non-payment of dues, the Grand High Priest of California says:

"This resolution receives my unqualified approbation. As in our jurisdiction the obtaining of Degrees and membership requires the petitioner to be a Master Mason in good standing, and as suspension in, or expulsion from, the Lodge not only ought to be, but actually is, immediate suspension in, or expulsion from, the Chapter, the declaration exacted of visitors is eminently proper, and should have rigid enforcement. Its adoption by us is earnestly recommended."

Companion Thomas Hubbard Caswell reported for the Committee on Correspondence reviewing the Proceedings of thirty Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1877-1878 of the number. He quotes freely from the addresses of Grand High Priests Potter and Hamilton.

The Grand Chapter unanimously adopted a resolution similar to the one adopted by this Grand Chapter in February last, regarding examination of visitors.

Nathan Weston Spaulding, Oakland, Grand High Priest.
Thomas Hubbard Caswell, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

COLORADO—1878.

Annual Convocation held in Denver, September 19, 1878,
Comp. Owen H. Henry, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Seven Chapters represented.

The Grand Chapter decided that a Royal Arch Mason was

in good standing after he had been suspended in his Lodge for non-payment of dues.

Companion Wm. M. Byers presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-one Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania not included.

Edward H. Collins, Denver, Grand High Priest.

Ed. C. Parmalee, Georgetown, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT—1879.

The Annual Convocation of this venerable Grand Chapter was held in New Haven, on May 13, 1879, and was presided over by Comp. Dwight Waugh, Grand High Priest.

Thirty-four Chapters represented.

The following from his annual address is very applicable to some of our sister Grand Chapters:

“My attention has in one or two instances been called to the application of non-affiliate Master Masons for the Chapter Degrees, and I have thought it expedient to bring the matter before the Grand Chapter for its consideration. By dimission, and severance from the roll, the great army of those who seek to enjoy Masonic benefits without bearing Masonic burdens, is steadily on the increase throughout the whole country. Our own jurisdiction shows a large muster-roll as its quota to this invincible host. In an almost absolute majority of cases this separation from the Lodge is purely voluntary on the part of the non-affiliate.

“The experience of every Master of a Lodge will, I believe, bear me out in the assertion, that, in nearly every instance, those stricken from the roll have not been among the indigent and needy, but, rather, those pecuniarily best calculated to bear their share of the financial burdens, but who steadily and persistently neglected or refused to do so, and were only too glad to find so easy a way of escaping them. That any so recreant to duties and obligations already assumed, should desire to incur still further responsibilities, would seem, at first thought, utterly improbable, did not the facts go to prove that there are such among our number, whose action requires some prohibitory legislation on our part. While I fully trust that few, if any, of our Chapters are willing to build with ashlar so utterly unfit for use as

these, I nevertheless desire the Grand Chapter to stamp them with the brand of its condemnation ; and I therefore suggest such legislation as shall prohibit their acceptance by the Subordinate Chapters."

Companion John H. Baslow presented Report on Correspondence reviewing the Proceedings of forty-two Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1877 and 1878 of the number.

He quotes from Grand High Priests Potter's and Hamilton's addresses.

On the merging of the Councils and Chapters, he says :

" While we oppose the merging of the two Grand Bodies, as stated in our report of last year, we must utter our solemn protest against Companions receiving those Degrees in a lawful Chapter, after said union, being styled clandestine."

And why not clandestine? Has a Chapter the lawful right to confer the Council Degrees? If they have not, then the work is clandestine. Companions who have received the Council Degrees in a Council where they have pledged themselves never to be present at the conferring of these Degrees, except in a lawful Council, who are present and assist to confer these Degrees in a Chapter, do what is both *irregular* and *clandestine*, if we understand the meaning of the word clandestine.

Dwight Waugh, Stamford, Grand High Priest.

Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE—1879.

Annual Convocation held at Wilmington, January 15, 1879. A. G. Cox, Grand High Priest.

Six Chapters represented.

Companion J. Thomas Budd reported on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1877 of the number.

Alfred G. Cox, Middletown, Grand High Priest.

George W. Stone, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1878.

Special Convocation held in Washington, March 13, 1878, at which the Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master Degrees were exemplified and adopted.

At the Special held March 18, the Royal Arch Degree was exemplified and adopted as the standard work.

The Semi-Annual was held on June 12, 1878.

The Committee appointed to present to the Grand Chapter of Maryland the old record book containing the minutes of the formation of that Grand Chapter, presented their report.

The Annual was held Dec. 11, 1878, and was presided over by Companion Joseph S. McCoy, Grand High Priest. He reported the following decision:

“On November 1, 1855, Companion T. B. J. Frye, at that date a member of Potomac Chapter, was on motion dropped from membership and his dues remitted.

“On the 12th of February last, Companion Frye made application for restoration. In that connection, the question was raised whether, in view of the remission of the Companion's dues, that remission did not operate to restore him to membership as of the date he was dropped.

“The case was presented to me by M. E. Companion Brice, High Priest of Potomac Chapter, for decision.

“An examination of the records of that Chapter relating to Companion Frye was made. The minutes for November 1, 1855, simply recite that on that date: ‘On motion of Companion Cropley, Companions T. B. J. Frye and * * * were dropped as members and their dues remitted.’ The specific cause for this action on the part of Potomac Chapter does not appear.

“Companion Frye states that he was dropped by reason of non-payment of dues, and as his statement has not been questioned, I decided it from that standpoint.

“Potomac Chapter dropped Companion Frye for a non-compliance with a Masonic obligation, and it could not restore him by a simple remission of dues, because in cutting off his membership, it enforced a penalty and a consequent disability—the penalty being a forfeiture of membership; the disability an ineligibility to apply for membership to another Chapter while such disability remained. The remission, in my judgment, merely removed the disability,

without in any way setting aside the penalty. In other words, while Potomac Chapter cut off his membership, it remitted his dues and left him at liberty to apply to any other Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for membership, when his circumstances would admit; and, while in these days such peculiar action by a Chapter might be questioned, it seemed to me far too late, after twenty-two years and more, to impeach as irregular the action then had by Potomac Chapter.

“I returned the case to the Chapter with the decision that the remission did not restore Companion Frye to membership, and that, as a preliminary therefore, his petition was correct and necessary.

“On his petition, Companion Frye was duly elected, and is at this date a member of Potomac Chapter.”

Companion Noble D. Larner presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings of thirty-five Grand Bodies, Pennsylvania for 1877 included. On account of the press of business he apologizes for the want of a report.

Matthew Trimble, Washington, Grand High Priest.

Charles W. Hancock, 1443 Corcoran Street, North-west Washington, Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Jacksonville, January 21st, 1879, Comp. Enos Wasgate, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Eight Chapters represented.

In his annual address he speaks of the symbolism of the Royal Arch Degrees, and as the evil he speaks of is not confined solely to his own jurisdiction we quote, in the hope that it may prove beneficial at some time to some thoughtless Companion.

“The ceremonies to me, if properly rendered, are purely sublime. I see in them a symbolic language, expressing ideas which reach from earth to heaven. But I have seen this work done in a way that destroyed entirely the symbolism, and rendered the ceremony an entire farce. When a Companion stoops so low as to do this work in a way to

make sport for himself or others, or for any other purpose not intended in the ritual, he not only destroys the symbolism, but prostitutes a solemn and impressive ceremony to base and unnatural purposes.

“I think I can discover the cause of this lethargy in the membership of the Chapters in our sister jurisdictions and our own. Any departure from the symbolic work, either in Lodge or Chapter, has a tendency to disgust the refined, sensitive, upright and honorable; and in a very short time the symbolism is entirely lost sight of, and then the work ceases to be interesting. The members cease to attend their meetings, and very soon the meetings die out entirely.

Circumstances have been brought to my attention of the abuse of the ritual, of which I will mention. A gentleman of refinement got all the Masonry he wanted in the Apprentice degree by the abuse of the ritual; and the institution lost a man who would have been an ornament to the Fraternity anywhere. His simple expression ‘I thought I was among gentlemen,’ ought to have been a standing rebuke to all such workers of iniquity. This will also apply to the Royal Arch Degree. I know a very fine gentleman who got all the Royal Arch Masonry he wanted when he received the Degree, and never honors the Chapter with his presence.”

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

Robert J. Perry, Key West, Grand High Priest.

DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Macon, April 30th, 1879. Comp. William J. Johnson, Grand High Priest. Thirty-two Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest very properly decided that the Secretary of a Chapter whose term had expired, but whose successor had not yet been installed, although elected, could not dimit until his successor was installed.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, reducing the mileage to five cents, instead of ten cents as heretofore.

A Committee on merging with the Grand Council was appointed.

One hundred dollars was paid to the Chairman of Committee on Correspondence ; also to Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Chapter paid its mileage, one-third in cash, balance in scrip, payable when the finances admit.

Comp. Samuel Lawrence presented the Report on Correspondence.

He likens the Royal Arch Craft to a bee-hive with its busy inhabitants, and of the labors of the Committee on Correspondence, he says :

“ Who prepares a Report on Correspondence for his Brethren is like unto him who uncovers the glass and shows the inner working and industry of the Brethren within their several hives—jurisdictions—noting the laws under which they work, and the harmony which prevails; not omitting, if need be, to notice and point out their defalcations and departures from the organic law. Like the genial, though hobbling, Asmodeus of LeSage, for the student of Salamanca, he uncovers, for the reader, the roofs of the homes which pass in review before his privileged eye, and shares with him the pleasure and the profit of a bird’s-eye view of what is passing within.”

Of the number of Grand Chapters thus exposed to his study, we find Pennsylvania for 1877–78.

He wants to know the difference in status of the membership of a Chapter whose warrant is arrested, and where the warrant is suspended.

But as he has answered the *quære* himself, we can but give his own words: “ *The difference between a wild cat and Bengal tiger. And yet the young man was not satisfied.*”

In regard to the revelation of the secrets of the ballot, he agrees with us, and we with him, that the Companion cannot be compelled to reveal his secret, but if he does, Comp. Lawrence and the reasons are not Masonic. We favor a little of the law as pronounced by Judge Lynch or the free judges in Germany in olden time: let judgment be carried out with the speed of lightning. Such a *person* is not fit to associate with his Brethren and Companions of Masonry who would from unworthy motives cast a black ball, and thus cowardly as it were stab a Brother in the back without

giving him fair warning and a chance to answer his accuser. We have, in the course of our Masonic life, found but one or two who have acted thus cowardly, and when they were discovered they were made to understand that the best thing they could do was to get out as soon as possible, and they did not hesitate upon their going, but went at once.

Comp. Lawrence quotes in full the resolution of February, 1879, of this Grand Chapter in regard to the declaration required of visitors.

As we have given part of the opening of Comp. Lawrence, we give his conclusion, speaking of his report, he says :

“ But had we been able to make it never so perfect, there will be some to think it too diffuse, some too concise, and some, who cannot *bear* these Reports at best, or think *they* could do better, who will, perhaps, deign to count the pages, then ‘throw it idly by.’ These remind us of one of the happiest, wittiest, and, withal, delicate double *entendres* in the language, by Shiels of the *Boston Post*, who sometime introduced us to a parlor scene, thus :

“ Mrs. Partington, dear old lady, in social converse, with two or three old maiden ladies, Ike and his comrades noisily playing and romping around.

“ One of the old maids, annoyed by their noise, querulously said : ‘ I never could *bear* children.’ ”

“ The old lady, mildly looking over her specks, quietly observed : ‘ You would like them better, perhaps, if you could.’ ”

“ In the sententious words of the immortal Pepper—

“ ‘ MOR’L IS OBVIS.’ ”

J. W. Oslin, West Point, Grand High Priest.

J. Emmett Blackshear, Macon, Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS—1878.

Annual Convocation held in Chicago, October 24th, 1878. Comp. James C. McMurtry, Grand High Priest. A large number of Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports his perplexities on the *new idea of clandestinely conferring the Council Degrees* :

“ Soon after the close of the Grand Chapter, last year, I

sent to the subordinate Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction, the 'joint action' of the Grand Council and Grand Chapter, in the matter of the Royal Master's and Select Master's Degrees, as their *Warrant* to confer these Degrees.

"Many of the officers of Subordinate Chapters not having received these Degrees, I authorized the Grand Secretary to issue a circular permitting any Chapter to confer these Degrees on members and officers of other Chapters, at the request of the High Priest of said other Chapters or of the Chapters.

"This arrangement, I am informed, has facilitated the conferring of those Degrees, and enabled many Chapters to procure a sufficient number to open a Council.

"I have confined myself in this matter, to '*conferring the Degrees*' of Royal and Select Master, believing—the Grand Chapter having made no law on the subject, except to *accept exclusive jurisdiction* of these degrees, and the Grand Council having given us two years to make the necessary laws—it would be better to wait the action of this Grand Chapter in the matter.

"Soon after the close of this Grand Chapter many of the Chapters were anxious to confer the Royal and Select Master Degrees.

"In view of the fact that this Grand Body has assumed the full control of the Degrees of Royal and Select Master, thereby leaving the Grand Council without funds to print its Proceedings, I would recommend action be taken, at this session, to publish in our Proceedings such portion of their actions as may be of interest to the Craft."

And the Grand Chapter's conscience troubles her, for the following motion was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence be and is hereby directed to report the necessary legislation to more fully carry out, in a *constitutional* manner, the consolidation of the Council Degrees under the authority of the Grand Chapter."

The italics are ours, wherefore this doubt.

The salary of the Grand Secretary was reduced from \$1000 to \$600. Too low for the amount of work and time consumed.

Comp. Theodore T. Gurney submitted the Report on Correspondence. From his introduction we quote :

“The ‘colored’ question seems to have subsided. If Companions will only keep in mind that white clandestines are entitled to like consideration with the black, and that ‘all men are now equal before the law,’ we shall never be influenced by the proposition, that it is a misfortune to be born white.”

/ Pennsylvania Proceedings not mentioned.

John D. Hamilton, Chester, Grand High Priest.

Gilbert W. Barnard, 192 Clark Street, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

1879.

Annual Convocation held in Chicago, October 30th, 1879. Most Eminent Comp. John D. Hamilton, Grand High Priest, presiding. Constitutional number of Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest reports that through the payment of mileage and pay of Representatives, that the Grand Chapter treasury is overdrawn, and owes the Grand Treasurer \$1700.

A motion to reduce the mileage was voted down, “too much fun for a poor man.”

Business mostly of local nature.

Comp. Theodore T. Gurney presents the Report on Correspondence, reviewing a number of Grand Chapter Proceedings; among others, Pennsylvania, for 1878.

He says :

“Under South Carolina, we find this. Quoting Comp. Burke, who takes exceptions to the methods, or rather to restrictions placed by the Grand Chapter upon the Committee on Appeals, Comp. Meyer replies :

“‘We do stick close to the records. It is a right the accused has, and which the accuser and the Chapter must grant him. It is better to be right than wrong. Our Committee on Appeals do not try a case, or grant a rehearing. If the trial has not been conducted properly, the case is returned to the Chapter for another trial. A Subordinate Chapter has entire jurisdiction over its members, which a Grand Chapter cannot interfere with. They are alone the judges of whom they will associate with. If a brother is unworthy of their fellowship they can expel him, but only in a law-

ful manner, and the Grand Chapter cannot restore him to his former rights, except an error has been committed in the trial. We acknowledge with pride that our Grand Chapter *does stick close to the record.*'

"Are we to understand from this, that a Companion in Pennsylvania is without relief if he has been trampled upon and abused by his Chapter, as the result of a trial for an alleged offense? Surely, this cannot be possible. Is it also true that a Chapter must surrender its good name to the caprice or whims of a majority, who are so frequently influenced by the same considerations that are brought to bear upon juries and courts of law? The entire thought embodied in the organization of a Grand Body, is the care to be exercised over its constituents and their members. We have a case under consideration at this writing, where a Lodge refused to convict a member of larceny, notwithstanding the evidence against him was overwhelming. It is true, that the Lodge erred in supposing a return of the money purloined condoned the offense, nevertheless there was an acquittal, and under Pennsylvania law the Grand Lodge would be powerless in the premises. These errors of judgment are as common to Chapters as Lodges, and we are amazed that any Grand Body should so far waive the prerogatives that inhere to its organization, as to be unable to care for those that it was organized to protect. We do not understand the necessity of a Grand Chapter that has not an unqualified appellate jurisdiction."

Any Companion who has been suspended has the right of appeal, and the appeal is the only thing before the Grand Chapter. On this the Committee on Appeals act; they cannot go behind the record.

"In his conclusion, Comp. Meyer says: 'Royal and Select Masters made in Chapters can only be known as clandestines, with no right to visit or be visited by the regular Companions of those Degrees.'

"Well, our good friend has more hope for paralytics than we. In Illinois, the Council has so much the appearance of a corpse, that we became weary with unavailing efforts to keep it alive, and transplanted it into a soil that inspires hope for its future. If our Pennsylvania brethren have time to spend in nursing a hopeless undertaking, we will not complain, although we may be permitted to extend sympathy and condolence.

“We find three (3) Mark Lodges, all located in Philadelphia, and numbered 91, 214 and 216. *Some* must have died out. How many Councils have you, Comp. Meyer, and *how* are they numbered?”

In reply we would say, prior to 1824, the Chapters and Mark Lodges were connected with Lodges of Master Masons, and worked under their Warrant. Therefore Lodge No. 91, F. & A. M. had attached to it a Mark Lodge and Chapter, same as Lodges No. 3, 21 and 43 each had Chapters attached to them.

We have twenty-five Councils of R. S. E. & S. M., in Pennsylvania, in no way connected with the Chapters, nor have they ever been. They are nearly all actively at work, and as successful as any other branch of Masonry. They are numbered from 1 to 42.

Samuel W. Waddle, Bloomington, Grand High Priest.

Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

IOWA—1878.

Annual Convocation held in Marshalltown, October 15, 1878. Comp. Abel W. Daugherty, Grand High Priest. Sixty-two Chapters represented.

The Grand Chapter refused by a vote of 105 to 101 to allow the use of substitutes in the conferring of the Royal Arch.

Five per cent. of the income of the Grand Chapter is set apart for a charity fund.

The following was adopted :

“Your Committee find that the cost of writing and printing the Reports on Foreign Correspondence for the past two years has cost the Grand Chapter over nine hundred dollars, which we consider, owing to the fact that they are read by so few, a useless waste of the funds of the Grand Chapter. We therefore recommend that hereafter no Reports on Foreign Correspondence be made or published; but that the Grand Representatives of the several jurisdictions near this Grand Chapter be requested to present, at each session, a short and concise report of the doings of the several Grand Chapters which they represent.”

How much did your mileage and pay cost? We venture to say three times as much as the printing Reports of Correspondence. Will not the Reports of Grand Representatives cover more pages than the Report on Correspondence? Ask Nebraska for her experience on this subject.

It was decided that as at an election held for officers in a Subordinate Chapter two ballots were cast for a person not a member, such ballots be not counted in the summing up.

A Subordinate Chapter was authorized to confer the Royal and Select Master's Degrees on forty-five candidates.

Comp. T. R. Ercanbrach presented the Report on Correspondence, reviewing a number Grand Chapter Reports. He announces it as his first appearance, and we regret to learn by the action of the Grand Chapter as above quoted, it will be his last for a year or two.

No report on Pennsylvania.

Abel W. Daugherty, Dubuque, Grand High Priest.

William B. Langridge, Muscatine, Grand Secretary.

INDIANA—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Indianapolis, October 22, 1879, Comp. Martin H. Rice, Grand High Priest, presiding. Seventy-eight Chapters represented.

In his address he says :

“It has long been the custom in this Grand Chapter for the Grand High Priest to prepare a review of the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters, and the same has been printed with the report of the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter. In this manner our Companions generally are kept informed as to the doings of other Grand Chapters, and the general condition of Royal Arch Masonry. I have always favored such reports, and as a general rule think the money expended in printing them could not have been used with greater benefit to the Craft in this jurisdiction. In view, however, of the present financial condition of our Grand Chapter, and the necessity for retrenchment in expenses, much against my own inclination, I concluded not to prepare such a review to be printed with the Proceedings of this Annual Convocation. It may be regarded by some as a penny-wise course,

but I think it will meet the approbation of those who have been carrying Grand Chapter scrip in their pockets. If I have erred in this matter, I trust you will not impugn my motives, as they were intended to best serve your interests. Nor do I desire to establish a precedent for my successors, for under ordinary circumstances I would say let us have a Report on Foreign Correspondence."

The annual dues were raised to 50 cents for each member.

Thomas B. Long, Terre Haute, Grand High Priest.

John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS—1878.

Annual Convocation held in Atchison, October 14, 1878, Comp. Moses S. Adams Grand High Priest, presiding. Twenty-one Chapters represented.

Comp. E. T. Carr presented the brief Report on Foreign Correspondence. Among the number of Grand Chapter Proceedings acknowledged as being received, we find Pennsylvania for 1877.

D. W. Coxe, Fort Scott, Grand High Priest.

John M. Price, Atchison, Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY—1878.

Annual Convocation held in Louisville, October 21, 1878, Comp. James B. Blue, Grand High Priest, presiding. A constitutional number of Chapters represented.

In the annual address of the Grand High Priest, he speaks of those who do not pay their dues to their Chapters:

"Permit me to say a few words in regard to that class of Companions who are so aptly termed drones in the Masonic hive. They do not work, neither should they eat. They never attend the Chapter meetings except upon special occasions, and never think of paying dues, or contributing one cent toward the support of the Chapter—not even paying Grand Chapter dues—and yet they claim all the rights and privileges of those Companions who support and maintain the Chapters. They are the greatest drawback and hindrance to Capitular Masonry that could befall it, producing a want of efficiency and exertion on the part of the

younger members. It is a crying evil that should be removed, and that right speedily. Let them be cited to appear before the Chapter to show cause why they should not be suspended for the non-payment of dues. If a good and sufficient reason is not given, suspend them."

To quote the arguments of some of our Companions on the reportorial corps, "suspension for non-payment of dues in Blue Lodge is no hardship or disgrace."

The following was adopted:

"Resolved, That Rule 25, for the government of Subordinate Chapters, be so amended as to read: 'No petition for the Degrees in a Subordinate Chapter shall be received from one who is not at the time an affiliated Master Mason.'"

Comp. H. A. M. Henderson reports on Foreign Correspondence, and the report is in his usual able style. We regret that Pennsylvania is not of the number of Grand Chapters reviewed.

G. D. Buckner, Lexington, Grand High Priest.

Jos. H. Branham, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA—1879.

The Annual Convocation was held in New Orleans, February 11, 1879, Comp. William Robson, Grand High Priest, presiding. Fifteen Chapters represented.

The Report on Correspondence was dispensed with for one year.

Wm. L. Benedict, New Orleans, Grand High Priest.

James C. Batchelor, M.D., Lock Drawer 872, P. O. New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

MAINE—1879.

The Annual Convocation was held in Portland, May 6, 1879, Comp. Arlington B. Marston, Grand High Priest, presiding. Forty-two Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest in his annual address report visiting several Chapters, and that after the work, there were suppers and banquets and balls, in which participated their

“sisters, cousins and aunts.” This is the first appearance of “Pinafore” in the Grand Chapter Proceedings. No more, if you please.

The necessity of having a stated hour for meeting is fully exemplified in the following:

“A candidate applied for the Degrees and was rejected. The requisite time having elapsed, he applied again. The second petition matured on the 2d of January. Comp. A. stated that he went to the hall a little before half-past seven o’clock P. M.; shortly afterwards the Chapter was *declared* open and some routine business transacted, then the Chapter was *closed*, and a Lodge of Past Masters opened. Comp. A. asked another Companion what had been done with the petition referred to, and was informed that a Convocation had been called at four o’clock in the afternoon, at which the candidate had been accepted, and the Mark Degree conferred upon him. Comp. A. immediately asked the High Priest if this was correct, and was informed that such was the fact. Comp. A. then formally objected to the advancement of the candidate, and stated his reasons.

“The High Priest put the question, *in a Lodge of Past Masters*, whether the *Chapter* should proceed to confer the Degrees, and it was voted to proceed. Comp. A. then wrote to me, asking my decision in regard to the legality of taking such a vote in a Lodge of Past Masters, and stated that he had no intention or desire to take any action in the premises.

“I decided that the action of the Chapter was irregular, and wrote to the High Priest directing a stay of proceedings, until further notice, and requested him to send me a copy of the By-Laws of his Chapter, and an attested copy of the record of the Convocation held January 2d. These were sent, and I found that the By-Laws provided that the stated Convocations should be called at such an hour of a certain day, as the Chapter or High Priest should determine.”

Montgomery No. 2 and St. Bernard No. 23 Chapters asked permission to consolidate, which was granted under the following arrangement:

“1. That Montgomery Chapter, No. 2, and St. Bernard, No. 23, be consolidated upon the conditions stated in the votes of the Convention of the members of the two

Chapters, as contained in the record hereunto annexed, and under the name of Montgomery and St. Bernard Chapter, No. 2.

“2. That the charter of Montgomery Chapter, No. 2, after having this action of the Grand Chapter endorsed thereon, shall be the charter of the consolidated Chapter.

“3. That the charter of St. Bernard Chapter, endorsed in such manner of the Grand High Priest shall direct, be delivered to the consolidated Chapter, to be placed in the archives with the records of the two Chapters.

“4. That the Grand High Priest, by himself or such Companion as he shall specially depute therefor, shall cause the members of said Chapters to be assembled; and shall then proceed to organize the Chapter by delivering to them the charter endorsed as above provided; and thereupon he shall preside during the election of officers and cause them to be installed; and make due return of his proceedings to the Grand Secretary, to be entered upon the records of the Grand Chapter.”

Comp. Josiah H. Drummond presented the Report on Foreign Correspondence in the preparation of which he was assisted by Comp. John S. Derby.

Among the Grand Chapters reviewed, we find Pennsylvania for 1877-78, which fell to the lot of Comp. Drummond, in which he does not do full justice to his fame as a wise and accomplished Mason. He draws inferences which are unwarranted.

Comp. Drummond quotes in full the Report of this Committee as made in February last in regard to the status of suspended Master Masons who are Royal Arch Masons (see page 5).

And says:

“The action involves a principle of the gravest importance, and is a dangerous attack upon the rights of other Grand Bodies. The effect of the resolution is, that the *status* of all Royal Arch Masons shall be determined in Pennsylvania by the laws of its Grand Chapter, and not by the laws of the jurisdiction in which they reside and to which they owe obedience. Of course the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has the *power* to decline to admit ANY visitors, or recognize, as Royal Arch Masons, *any* hailing from another State; but equally, as a matter of course, in doing so, it violates the Masonic obligations.”

Comp. Drummond is right, the resolution does involve a principle of the gravest importance, but as to its being "a dangerous attack upon the rights of other Grand Bodies" he is altogether wrong. It is no dangerous attack, it is merely carrying out the law of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania within the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Under that law we judge the *status* of *all* Royal Arch Masons within our jurisdiction. While they are here they are subject to our laws, the same as we would be while within the jurisdiction of Maine.

Again he says:

"The law in Maine is, that for non-payment of dues the only penalty which can be inflicted is suspension from, or deprivation of, *membership*, and shall not extend to suspension *from Masonic rights*, except those growing out of *Lodge membership*; also unaffiliated Masons are *Masons*. Now, when our Pennsylvania Companions say that a decision that suspension *from membership* in a Lodge does not affect his Masonic standing [and therefore does not affect his standing in the Chapter] is 'a violation of Masonic law and usage,' they commit a gross blunder, and state, unwittingly, what is not true.

"The whole system of *compulsory* dues is a modern invention, and our Pennsylvania Companions are challenged to find an instance of it, in Pennsylvania or elsewhere, prior to the anti-Masonic storm. Now, then, if Maine, Massachusetts and others choose to follow the *old* law and usage, but Pennsylvania chooses to adopt a *new* law and usage, with what force can *she* say that *they* are violating 'Masonic law and usage,' even if we admit that her law is the better and wiser one?

"Each jurisdiction has the right to prescribe the penalty for non-payment of dues: and no other jurisdiction has any right to interfere. When the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania undertakes to add to the penalty one's own jurisdiction has imposed, she is guilty of a violation of Masonic law and usage, as well as of an insult to her Sister Grand Chapter."

Comp. Drummond makes some strange statements, and writes in very strong language, "*gross blunder, and state, unwittingly, what is not true,*" are words we have seldom met

with in Grand Chapter reports, or in any Masonic proceedings, and are unwarranted, and we think, were written rather hastily, without due reflection. We still hold that *any decision* which says that a Royal Arch Mason who does not pay his dues to his Lodge is in good standing in his Chapter is a violation of Masonic law and usage.

If we examine the Royal Arch at its organization, and for many years afterwards, we will find that the Royal Arch was but the completion of the Master's Degree, and in England where it is still practiced as it was originally, a Royal Arch Mason, suspended from membership in his Lodge for any cause whatsoever, ceases to be a Royal Arch Mason in good standing.

Pennsylvania Royal Arch Masonry in its government is somewhat after the English style, and a Royal Arch Mason suspended from his Lodge for any cause whatsoever is *ipso facto* suspended from his membership in the Chapter, and the Chapter cannot question for one moment the action of the Lodge. Still further, should he resign, dimit or withdraw from the Lodge, and remain unaffiliated for a period of six months, he at once ceases to be a member of his Chapter.

We are also surprised that Comp. Drummond has thrown down the glove, and *challenges us* "to find an instance that there was such a thing as compulsory dues prior to the anti-Masonic storm." We accept the challenge and produce the proofs.

The By-Laws of Lodge No. 3, 1787, makes the payment of dues compulsory.

Lodge No. 2, of this city, by their Minutes show in 1796, suspension for non-payment of dues.

The publications of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the year 1801, publishes a number of cases of *expulsions* for non-payment of dues.

In 1804, the Grand Lodge of Maryland notified the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and the latter published the names of a number of members of Subordinate Lodges who were *expelled* for non-payment of dues.

In 1805 the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, *expelled and suspended* for non-payment of dues. North Carolina *suspended*. Nova Scotia *expelled and suspended*, and from that time until 1820, when the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania ceased to publish such suspensions, we find that the Grand Lodges of Virginia, Ohio, Tennessee, and Indiana, expelled and suspended for non-payment of dues. We might name more, but we are challenged only to name *one* instance.

Therefore it does not appear very *new* law, but older than the Grand Lodge of Maine, which was organized in June 24th, 1820, not quite *sixty years ago*.

Again, we must differ from Comp. Drummond. The old Constitution does not say, "You may pay dues, and be a member of a Lodge," but it says plainly and unmistakably that every Mason *ought* to belong to a Lodge, &c.

The Maine Masonic Text-Book, compiled by our Comp. Drummond, page 13, says:

"Experience has shown that Masons do not always obey the laws of the Institution, and that it sometimes becomes necessary to inflict punishment on that account. Every violation of the laws of Masonry is an offence for which the Mason committing it may be punished. The Masonic law requires us to obey the moral law, the laws of our country, the Constitutions, Regulations and well-established customs of the Fraternity, and to keep our obligations; hence a violation of any of these is a Masonic offence."

A Mason is obligated to obey the By-Laws of his Lodge. The Lodge says every member shall pay annual dues; a failure to do so cripples the Lodge financially, and is a violation of the obligation, and is a Masonic offence both against the Lodge and the Grand Lodge which is dependant on the subordinate for support.

Membership can be severed only by dimission, death, suspension or expulsion. Membership is *honorable*, suspension for any cause is *dishonorable*. A Mason who can pay his dues, and does not, is not honest, and should be dishonored.

It is no punishment in Maine to suspend a Mason from membership in his Lodge, it merely unaffiliates him. If we

understand the Maine law, the suspended-for-non-payment-of-dues Mason can visit any Lodge (except the one in which he was suspended), if the Lodge *chooses* to admit him; he may apply for assistance, and, if the Lodge *chooses*, they can assist him; he may be buried with Masonic honors if the Lodge so *wishes*. The same privileges has the Mason in good standing in his Lodge, who pays his honest debts to the Lodge, and assists in its support.

Such is not the law in Pennsylvania, and we venture to say, in a large majority of Grand Lodges in this country. With us "*suspension*" has no qualification. It means all that the word implies. It suspends him from all his functions, Masonically, in the Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, and in the Ancient Accepted Rite, in which latter body they have adopted what we have always had in our Chapters, the doctrine of *compulsory membership*.

No Mason is suspended in Pennsylvania without due and timely notice, and a chance to be heard in his defence. If unable by poverty or misfortune, to pay his dues, his dues are promptly remitted. If he is suspended for non-payment of dues, he has an opportunity, within twelve months, to pay the amount, and, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, may be restored to membership in his Lodge. If after that time, he is required to petition in the usual form for membership, and after investigation by a committee of three, favorable report and unanimous ballot, he may regain his membership. Royal Arch Masonry is grounded upon the Blue Lodge. It receives its initiates from that source, and depends upon it for support as far as regards its initiates, and cannot question any of its acts or go behind the records.

There is a way open for those who do not wish to pay their dues, and that is to dimit after honorably paying their dues.

It is true, according to the Report of Comp. Drummond, you stand in the same category as the Brother who has been suspended for not paying them; but you have this consola-

tion,—that you are an honest man, and that it is gentlemanly and Masonic to do so.

We have extended this review further than we intended, in justice to ourselves, and, in conclusion, would say, that we have not yet heard of any Grand Chapter which considers itself *grossly insulted* by our preamble and resolutions of February, last, unless Comp. Drummond is the Grand Chapter of Maine, for we find nothing in the official proceedings on the subject. In our opinion the subject is argued by him more in the manner of special pleading, and has neither the fact nor the general universal Masonic law on his side.

We are under obligations to Comp. Drummond for the extended notice given of Pennsylvania, and for the complimentary terms applied to ourselves and the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

An assessment of fifteen cents per member was laid upon each Chapter. In case the Chapters should not pay, what will be the punishment?

Joseph M. Hayes, Bath, Grand High Priest.

Ira Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS—1878.

This Grand Chapter, like Pennsylvania, meets quarterly, and the Proceedings before us refer to meetings on March 12th, June 11th, September 10th, December 10th, 1878, all held in Boston.

At the June Communication a proposition to make Past High Priests members of the Grand Chapter having been previously referred to a committee, they reported against the proposal, and the Grand Chapter sustained the report. The Committee, in their very elaborate report, say:

“Neither are we insensible to the fact that the earliest Constitution of the Grand Chapter made it a Representative Body, and the present Constitution so continues it, providing that the Subordinate Chapters shall be represented by its proper officers or by proxy, thus leaving the power *de facto*, with the people, and not legislating it to a privileged class.

“It would be constantly within the power of this class to increase its numbers year by year to an undue proportion, for by the poor service of a year the man, even the most needed, can retire, and claim his permanent prize; already do the Past High Priests outnumber the representatives of the Chapters, whose interests could at any time be subordinated to the wishes of a class who would represent no constituency, whose service has been brief, and whose personal efforts, though ever so conscientious, cannot, in the present at least, be divested of a personal interest.

“The service of years, should not be made less significant, than the accident of place.

“The reward of such service should not be so cheapened, that it may not command the attention and ability of the best.

“Under such a condition of things, it becomes evident that the Subordinate Chapters, on whom alone taxes are laid, and who are the sources of income to this Grand Chapter, would be unable to manage their financial system through their immediate and annually elected Representatives, who would be outnumbered and outvoted by a class which the adoption of this amendment proposes to create, and who, exempted from any taxation themselves, could yet control every dollar assessed or expended, and increase or decrease the amounts at any specified Convocation.

“Be it also observed, that the adoption of this amendment introduces to Permanent Memberships, by a wholesale vote, a majority of men illy qualified to legislate for the best interests of this Grand Chapter, for the reason that they so neglected the interests of their respective Chapters as Representatives, that they can now scarcely rise above a special care of their own.”

At the Annual Grand Convocation, Dec. 10, the Work was exemplified by the Grand Lecturer. Forty-nine Chapters represented.

Most Eminent Comp. J. W. Dadmun presented the Report on Correspondence, in which, among others, he reviews Pennsylvania, for 1877.

We would like to quote from this interesting report, but time forbids.

Thomas Waterman, M.D., 146 Boylston Street, Boston,
Grand High Priest.

Zeph. H. Thomas, 113 Franklin Street, Boston, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA—1879.

Annual Convocation held in St. Paul, October 14th, 1879, Comp. Thomas Montgomery, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding. Twenty-three Chapters represented. Local business.

Comp. A. T. C. Pierson reports on Correspondence, and reviews thirty-nine Grand Chapters' Proceedings,—Pennsylvania, for 1878, included.

He quotes at length from Grand High Priest Hamilton's installation address.

In reply to Comp. Pierson's question, "Are the Royal and Select Masters in Virginia, Maryland, etc., clandestine?" we would say, if they received the Degrees under Chapter authority, Yes; they are so considered by us.

T. Montgomery, St. Peter, Grand High Priest.

A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Okolona, January 13, 1879, Right Excellent Comp. R. B. Brannon, Deputy (acting) Grand High Priest. Thirty-three Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest, in his annual address, says they have too many Chapters, a goodly number with less than 20 members.

The Grand Chapter wisely refused to make the Grand Lecturer an elective officer.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, very properly requiring Subordinate Chapters to pay the mileage and per diem of their own Representatives.

No Report on Foreign Correspondence.

Robert B. Brannon, Aberdeen, Grand High Priest.

John L. Power, Jackson, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN—1879.

Annual Convocation held in the city of Jackson, January 21, 1879, Most Excellent Comp. Charles J. Kruger, Grand High Priest. One hundred Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest decided that:

“If a Companion objects to the conferring of the Chapter Degrees on a candidate after being duly elected, the objection must be withdrawn before he can proceed; but if the objecting Companion is afterward suspended for unmasonic conduct, that removes the objection so far as he is concerned, and the High Priest may confer the Degrees unless some other Companion objects.”

“A subordinate Chapter has the right, by a vote thereof, to expel a Companion for non-payment of dues.”

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported on the following:

“Can A, who has taken the Mark and Past Master’s Degrees, object to B (who has been elected at the same time with A to take all of the Degrees) from taking the M. M. Degree, and should A give the reasons for his objections?”

“Your Committee are of the opinion that A has no right to object, that the High Priest is bound to recognize. Should A present such facts derogatory to the character of B as would render him unfit to take the Degrees, the High Priest might consider them, and they should have the same weight as from a Master Mason and no more.”

The Grand Chapter, after considerable discussion, refused to visit the State Prison.

Comp. Wm. P. Innes presents his usual able report on Correspondence, in which he reviews the Proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1877, included.

David C. Spaulding, Lyons, Grand High Priest.

William P. Innes, Grand Rapids, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND—1878.

A Special Convocation was held in Baltimore, January 31, 1878, for the purpose of receiving the Committee of the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia, who visited the Grand Chapter of Maryland for the purpose of presenting

the old record book of June 24, 1797, the alleged time of the formation of the latter Grand Chapter. The addresses on the occasion are recorded, and a good time was had at the expense of the Grand Chapter.

The Annual Convocation was held in Baltimore on November 12, 1878, Comp. John S. Tyson, Grand High Priest, presiding. Twelve Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest in one of his decisions, says, that the punishment of "dropping" could not be inflicted; that under the ancient usages and common law of Masonry, expulsion or indefinite suspension are the only methods of dismissing from membership.

Again he says :

"It must be a source of very great regret, to every right-minded Companion who views the subject in its proper light, not because of the fact of suspension or the loss of members to the fraternity, but because of the *cause* of suspension. I take it for granted that no Companion, who is unable to pay his dues and makes that fact known to his Chapter, will be suspended for non-payment. It is therefore truly mortifying, and makes us grieve for the frailty of humanity, to find so many persons who have been bound to us by the most sacred ties, whose moral character has passed the scrutiny of our investigation and the ordeal of the ballot, who have a standing in the community as respectable men, who are under the most solemn and explicit obligations to deal justly with their Brethren and Companions, and to obey the By-laws of their Chapters, yet violating these most solemn obligations for the sake of a few paltry dollars, and still claiming to be honorable men, having a right to walk uprightly, holding up their heads towards the light of Heaven, instead of groveling, as they should, in the dust of humiliation and shame. This debt, this *duty*, so much more sacred than any ordinary debt, they seem to regard as of even less obligation than that commonly accorded to mercantile debts, or even to a doctor's bill.

"Such certainly is the appearance which the facts present at first sight. I am firmly convinced however, that a very large majority of the delinquencies occur from a want of proper consideration, and because the delinquents have not had the matter presented to them in its true light. They think that membership is something which they have a right

to surrender if they choose so to do. This is true if it be done in the only right and honorable way, by payment of dues and getting a dimit. The mistake lies in supposing that one can by submitting to suspension, divest himself of moral responsibilities which accrued while he was yet a member."

Comp. E. T. Schultz, who presented the Report on Correspondence, reviews in an able manner the Proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1877, included. We are favored by fifteen lines notice.

Edward L. Parker, Jr., Baltimore, Grand High Priest.

William A. Wentz, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI—1878.

The Annual Convocation held in St. Louis, October 10, 1878, Most Eminent Comp. Wm. R. Stubblefield, Grand High Priest, presiding. Fifty-three Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest gave this sensible advice to several applicants for decisions :

"Read the Constitution, Rules and Regulations more, and you will have fewer questions to ask."

He also made decision as follows :

"Statement. At a regular Convocation of ——— Chapter, I, as High Priest, ordered a summons to be issued to all the members to attend our next meeting. The summons was issued and properly served. The time arrived for the regular Convocation, the roll was called and there appeared to be one absentee. I ordered the Secretary to summon him to be present at next Convocation to show cause why he disobeyed former summons. The summons was served—he appeared. When asked for his excuse, he said he would have obeyed first summons, but he forgot it. A Companion moved that the excuse be received. High Priest refused to entertain the motion, because he deemed the excuse insufficient. He then asked my decision.

"Decision. You should have entertained the motion. As High Priest you have a right to summon the members at any time, and for any purpose you see fit (but great care

should be used in exercising that prerogative). After having ordered a summons and it has been served on a Comp. and he knows that on account of sickness or some other equally good cause, he cannot be present—and asks you to excuse him, you have a perfect right to do so. If he makes no such excuse to you, but appears before the Chapter and makes his statements, then these statements become the property of the Chapter, and they (the members of the Chapter) can dispose of them as they see fit. After making this decision, I ordered the High Priest to entertain the motion.”

The following amendment to the Constitution was adopted :

“*Provided*, That where a Companion is liable to suspension for non-payment of dues, no charges and specifications or former trial shall be necessary, but the following proceedings shall be had: By order of the High Priest, the Secretary shall notify the Companion in arrears to appear before a Regular Communication of the Chapter, and show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues. Should he fail to appear, or appearing, fail to show satisfactory cause, the High Priest shall put the question, “Shall the Companion be suspended?” which shall be determined by ballot. Such notice shall be served ten days before the Communication at which the Companion is to appear; but should the residence of the delinquent be unknown, then a notice forwarded to the post-office at the last known place of residence of such delinquent, twenty days before the date at which he is required to appear, shall be sufficient.

“*Provided further*, No Companion who shall remain in arrears three years after his suspension, shall be reinstated by the payment of his dues, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Chapter.”

The following fraternal action was also had :

“*Resolved*, As a standing regulation by this Grand Chapter, that when a Companion Royal Arch Mason, hailing from another Grand Jurisdiction, affiliates with a constituent Chapter in this State, he brings with him, as of right, all the official honors, rights and privileges to which he would be entitled had the same been conferred upon him in this jurisdiction; and that such official honors, rights and privileges be, and are, hereby fully acknowledged and recognized and respected by both the constituent Chapters in this State, and by this Grand Body.”

Comp. John W. Luke presented the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-one Grand Bodies, Pennsylvania, for 1877, included.

Noah M. Givan, Harrisonville, Grand High Priest.

William H. Mayo, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY—1878-1879.

Clad with the emblems of mourning are the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter, for the year 1879.

An Emergent Convocation was held on May 14, 1879, in Jersey City, at which the Deputy Grand High Priest, Comp. James H. Durand, presided, when Comp. Geo. B. Edwards was appointed Grand Secretary, to fill vacancy caused by the death of our long-time friend and Companion, Thos. J. Corson.

The Annual Convocation was held in Trenton on September 12, 1879, Most Excellent Comp. George H. Jones, Grand High Priest, presided. Twenty-seven Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest feelingly announced the death of Comp. Thomas J. Corson, of whom it is well said :

“His work is done—and what a work was his? From his facile pen flashes of wit and wisdom beamed about us like the sun’s rays, and cheered many a drooping spirit, even while, at times, his own heart was burdened and bleeding. His lips distilled counsel unvaried in its soundness, and his cheering smile and kindly words soon melted the icy barrier of formality, and drew every one with whom he became acquainted into the genial sunshine of his warm and loving heart.

“I fear not contradiction, when I assert that in the various departments of labor to which this Grand Chapter called him, and in which he wrought so nobly, he had no peer. Upon no brow here will his ‘poet laureate crown’ be placed, and the name of Corson, that has already become a household word in Masonic circles, will be enshrined in the memory of Royal Craftsmen, not in the United States only, but in Great Britain and the Canadas.

“Dr. Thomas J. Corson was born in the town of New Hope, Pennsylvania, February 12th, 1828. He graduated as

a physician from the University of Pennsylvania in 1851, and settled in Trenton in 1854. Here he held many positions of trust, as a gentleman, a scholar and physician. He was elected to the State Legislature, Superintendent of Public Schools, Physician to the New Jersey State Prison, and President of the State Medical Society of New Jersey, the oldest medical institution in these United States. He commenced his Masonic career in Amwell, No. 12, February 8th, 1854. Was exalted in Boudinot Chapter, No. 3, March 2d, 1858. We find him this same year representing his Chapter in this Grand Chapter, and also elected Grand Scribe. In 1859 he was elected Deputy Grand High Priest, and was twice elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, serving this Grand Chapter in that capacity in the years 1860 and 1861. For nearly seven years he was an efficient Grand Secretary, and for thirteen years was Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

“On the 10th day of May, early in the morning, the weary wheels of life stood still, and the stricken one suffers no more. ‘After life’s fitful fever, he sleeps well.’”

The following from the address refers to this jurisdiction:

“September 24th, I granted dispensations to Siloam Chapter, No. 19, to receive and ballot upon petition of Brother Wm. J. Flanagan, a member of Merchantville Lodge, No. 119, but a resident of Philadelphia.

“February 11th, to Madison Chapter, No. 27, to receive and ballot upon the petition of Brother W. J. Cowley, a member of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, but a resident of Philadelphia.

“February 27th, to Siloam Chapter, No. 18, to receive and ballot upon the petition of Brother John Innes, a member of Ionic Lodge, No. 94, but a resident of Philadelphia.

“The existing peculiarities that distinguish the Royal Craft in Pennsylvania from those of New Jersey (passing the chair by dispensation from the Grand Lodge), render it impossible for any member of a Lodge in this State (except a P. M.) to become a member of a Chapter in Pennsylvania except by affiliation. Courteous and fraternal correspondence between the M. E. Grand High Priest and myself enabled me to grant the above privileges without infringement.”

Of the Order of High Priesthood, he says:

“Frequently, during the year, I have been asked the

question: When will you confer the Order of High Priesthood? No provision has been made in the Constitution of the Grand Council of Anointed High Priests in this jurisdiction, and subordinate Councils. Not being a degree established by the General Grand Chapter, it has been held, in this and many other Grand Chapters, as an honorary degree. On page 127 of the Proceedings of 1871, M. E. Comp. Corson says: 'We join hands with him (M. E. Comp. J. P. Hornor, of Louisiana), in this notice of New York. "The order of High Priesthood has no connection with Capitular Masonry in its legislative or executive functions; it is no qualification for the chair, and is properly bestowed, not upon all who have been elected to preside in a Chapter, but upon those only who have acquitted themselves worthily in such a responsible position and have the unanimous consent of the Council. It is a reward of merit, and not a preliminary qualification," etc.' No one who has received this order, can fail to be impressed with its beauty and solemnity, or hesitate to recognize the fact that due discrimination ought to be exercised towards its recipients; nevertheless, I cannot refrain from expressing my opinion that some measures ought to be taken that this order may become more general than it is at present in this Grand Chapter."

A most beautiful tribute to the memory of Comp. Corson was presented by Comp. Past Grand High Priest William Wallace Goodwin, and the following was adopted:

"The special committee appointed to take into consideration the recommendation of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, in his address, that some suitable recognition should be made of the services of the daughter of our late Grand Secretary, during his illness, would respectfully offer the following:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter offers to the devoted daughter of our late Grand Secretary its thanks for the manner she performed the duties devolving on her.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary inform Miss Hattie Corson of the action of this Grand Chapter."

Out of respect to the memory of Comp. Corson, there was no report on Correspondence.

James H. Durand, Rahway, Grand High Priest.

George B. Edwards, 43 Montgomery Street, Jersey City,
Grand Secretary.

The following will speak more than words the great loss
of our sister jurisdiction :

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW JERSEY, Office of the
Grand Secretary, 43 Montgomery Street, Jersey City.

EXCELLENT COMPANION:—It is my painful duty to inform
you of the decease of him, who for the past six years had
filled the office of Grand Secretary, amid the love and rever-
ence of the Craft—Most Excellent Companion Thomas J.
Corson, Past Grand High Priest, and Grand Secretary, after
a protracted sickness ; he departed this life to eternal bliss, on
the tenth instant ; his remains were conveyed, with sorrow-
ing hearts, to New Hope, Pennsylvania, where they were in-
terred among his family, after receiving the last sad rites.

Another ashler has been added to the mighty Arch of
Death, that spans the world—that silent structure not laid
up in Friendship, whose shadow falls upon the living—soon
to follow ; centuries roll on centuries in the progress of this
single-handed work, and the moss and lichen creeping to
their life over the dead, hide from the vision each integral
part, but cannot deny to the heart its cherished memories,
and these shall be, until the hour-glass of Time shall be no
more reversed, and the long moonless night, pass into the
effulgence of that glorious morn, when the Power of the
Mightiest shall shake the foundations of the dominion of
Death, and every stone thereof, by grace and mercy squared,
shall find a place in the City that is Eternal.

Fraternally,

GEORGE B. EDWARDS,

Grand Secretary.

It was a mournful duty to follow to the grave the
remains of the genial, good-natured, jovial, kind-hearted,
long suffering Companion “Tom Carson,” as he was familiar-
ly known. His wishes as oft expressed in his reports to
the Grand Chapter were complied with, and he was buried
as a Mason only can be buried, with the honors of a Master
Mason.

NEW YORK—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Albany, February 4, 1879, Most Excellent Companion David F. Day, Grand High Priest, presiding. One hundred and eighty-three Chapters represented.

The following decisions are noted:

“1. A question was asked me by M. E. Lewis E. Skinner, High Priest of Nunda Chapter, No. 155, arising out of the following facts: In October, 1866, Nunda Chapter, having favorably entertained the petition of a Brother for Degrees and membership, proceeded to a ballot. He was declared elected. At that time he resided within the territorial jurisdiction of Nunda Chapter, but was absent from home. Before receiving any of the Degrees of the Chapter he removed to the State of Pennsylvania, where he resided until the autumn of 1877. He then returned to this State and took up his residence at Jamestown, in Chautauqua county, within the jurisdiction of Western Sun Chapter, No. 67, in February, 1878, he applied to Nunda Chapter to confer the Degrees upon him. The question asked by Companion Skinner was whether that Chapter could lawfully confer them.

“My answer was that Nunda Chapter, by reason of the change of residence of the applicant, had lost its jurisdiction over him.”

The following is reported:

“The Grand High Priest then addressed the Grand Chapter in respect to the action of the General Grand Chapter regarding the *Arcana* of the Royal Arch Degree, and explained the legislation had by that body in reference thereto, at the Triennial Convocation held at Columbus, in 1865, at Baltimore in 1871, at Nashville in 1874, and at Buffalo in 1877, and also a recent decision of M. E. John Frizzell, General Grand High Priest, in regard to the same matter, and requested the Grand Lecturer to present, for the information of the Grand Chapter, the methods of communicating the R. A. W. and the G. O. W., which had been adopted by the General Grand Chapter, and which were therefore binding and conclusive upon all Companions under its jurisdiction.

“The Grand Lecturer then proceeded to exemplify that

part of the work of the Royal Arch Degree alluded to by the Grand High Priest, and instructed the Companions as to the proper manner of communicating the work of the Degree as determined upon by the General Grand Chapter."

The Grand Chapter of New York pays large salaries. The Grand Treasurer receives \$500. The Grand Chaplain \$200. The Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence \$250, and the Grand Secretary, \$2000.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported:

"1. In reply to the following proposition, viz. : Under the resolution in regard to the Grand Orient of France, adopted by the Grand Chapter, can a Chapter in this jurisdiction receive a proposition from a Brother made a Mason under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of France, but who expresses a belief in a Supreme Being, and can the Degrees be conferred if he is elected ?

"The answer, in our judgment, must be in the negative. Cordially sympathizing with all Brethren thus situated, we cannot overlook the fact that *all* Master Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient are, by the action of our Grand Lodge (the principle of which has just been endorsed by this Grand Chapter), Masonically clandestine. The rule applicable to this class of Brethren is, and must be, applicable to this case. The remedy is to be found in the action of these Brethren individually if they desire to advance in the proper Masonic way, and we need not further suggest what their action should be.

"At the time the Deputy Grand High Priest made his visit, although upon a regular night of meeting, the High Priest of the Chapter was not present; the King was present, but did not have the warrant of the Chapter in his possession. The Deputy Grand High Priest, with the consent of the King, and in his presence, and with his assistance, opened the Chapter and presided therein. The warrant of the Chapter was in the custody of the High Priest, who was unavoidably absent. It is assumed, but not concurred in by us, that, under this state of facts, the proceedings had were void, that the Chapter was not a legal body, and that the vote restoring the suspended member was nugatory.

"The clear and concise statement of the facts in the case as presented by that Committee renders it unnecessary for us to repeat them. There are two questions of Masonic law arising upon the facts as presented: First, as to the right of

a King or Scribe of a Chapter to open and work it in the absence of the High Priest and its warrant; and second, as to the power of a Deputy Grand High Priest to open, preside over and work a Chapter, its High Priest and warrant not being present.

“The warrant of a Chapter is the highest evidence of its legal existence, and its preservation and custody are therefore matters of serious consideration. Masonic law has prescribed who shall be its custodian (it can have but one custodian), and, in case of his absence, to whom its custody shall be transferred; and there is therefore no necessity for us to consider that question, nor have we any disposition to qualify the rule further than to construe it in consistence with certain well-established principles. The High Priest of a Chapter is primarily the custodian of a warrant, and, in case of his absence, it is his imperative duty to transfer its custody to the King or Scribe in regular succession. If he fails in that duty he is amenable to authority; but, must his failure to comply with that rule suppress the work of the Chapter? Which is most important, that the work of the Chapter shall regularly proceed, or that the evidence of the authority for that work shall at all times be palpably visible to the senses? It has been held, and we think properly, that it is not absolutely necessary that it should be present in the Chapter, provided it is known to be in existence and under the control of its proper custodian. It is simply a question of evidence, the highest of which is of course its tangible, visible presence. But this does not exclude the idea of secondary evidence, provided it be satisfactory to the parties concerned; nor does it relieve the custodian from responsibility in case he has failed to discharge his duty. But the question returns, shall the carelessness or forgetfulness of the custodian for the time being arrest the work of the Chapter? We think this would be a very arbitrary construction of a well settled rule; it appears to us “grasping at the shadow and letting go the substance.” The Chapter is in full vitality; it has parted with none of its rightful powers; it has simply been deprived by accident (as in this case) of the highest evidence of the possession of these powers. Our conclusion, therefore, is, that under the facts of this case, as presented to us, the King of Ridgewood Chapter acted rightfully in opening and working the Chapter on the occasion referred to.

“The second question is, whether a Deputy Grand High

Priest has the power to open and work a Chapter, or cause it to be done in the absence of the High Priest and the warrant? The usage of this jurisdiction has given to the Grand High Priest and the Deputy Grand High Priest the same power in this respect as are given to the Grand Master and his Deputy, and the power may be traced back distinctly for over half a century. We do not believe that this power has been, or will be, exercised by either, under any other circumstances than such as are strictly in compliance with Masonic law and usage, nor do we believe that they have the power so to do."

And the following resolutions were annexed :

"1. *Resolved*, That a Master Mason, hailing from the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of France, is not eligible to the Chapter Degrees in this jurisdiction, in the present relations between our Grand Lodge and that Grand Orient.

"3. *Resolved*, That the King of a Chapter may open and work it at its regular convocation, in the absence of the High Priest and the warrant, provided that he be satisfied that such absence of the High Priest and warrant was accidental, and without improper design, and that such warrant is in existence, in full force and in proper custody."

Comp. Darius A. Ogden presents a full report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters and one SPURIOUS Grand Chapter.

We would call Comp. Ogden's attention to the proposed amendment of Comp. Woodruff, on pages 41 and 42 of the Proceedings. At the head of the latter page he will read, "The Order of High Priesthood *shall only be conferred in Grand Chapter.*" The italics are ours.

His report covers ninety pages, of which a number of pages are dedicated to a defense of SPURIOUS Masons.

Under the head of Indiana, he asks by what authority a Grand High Priest or anybody else can open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons where there is neither dispensation nor warrant for such Chapter. We can answer this easily: by authority of the Grand Chapter of New York as adopted at this session and already quoted by us in this review.

Under the head of Pennsylvania for 1877, he says:

"The election of officers for the ensuing year took place,

and the Order of High Priesthood was conferred, after all who had not received it had retired ; how, exactly, does not appear, but the inference is that it was done in Grand Chapter, and not in a Council of High Priests, as is the custom in most if not all the jurisdictions in this country. It is probable, that after the retirement spoken of, a Council of High Priests was organized, in which the Order was conferred. With us the Grand High Priest is the President of the Council of High Priests, and the Council meets and the Order is conferred on those qualified to receive it (viz., elected High Priests), on the first day or evening of the meeting of the Grand Chapter."

We know no such organization as a Council of High Priests. The Order is conferred in open Chapter or Grand Chapter in the presence only of those who have received the Order of High Priesthood.

Again he says :

"This ancient and honorable Grand Chapter ought to belong to the Union. It would do Pennsylvania good to come under the mild and salutary sway of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. While it might not make the Companions of the Keystone State any stronger, or more perfect Royal Arch Masons, it would bring them into closer sympathy and fellowship with the great body of the Royal Craft of the same country, language and political associations; and it would, we think, wear off some of the rough edges which still adhere to both her and Virginia, who have stood so long isolated, not perhaps proudly and haughtily, but a little too much in the position of dignified loneliness. All over the land, the Companions of lesser and newer States, as well as the older and stronger, would welcome into union and association under the General Grand Chapter these two foremost States of the original Thirteen, as well as the two or three others who stand on their dignity outside."

We have nothing to say against the General Grand Chapter. Some of those who are in it know all about its workings and do not speak very pleasantly of it.

An eloquent address on Solomon, King of Israel, by Comp. Rev. James Byron Murray, Grand Chaplain, is also published. We have only space to quote the following :

“His greatest work was the Temple. In this we find a remarkable evidence of his wisdom. It showed the lavish yet careful use of material; the strength of order and repose. This lavish use was seen in the gold which gave special beauty as a covering to the different portions of the structure. The various woods from the forest, regardless of expense, were freely used, and were carved and so placed as to combine the highest artistic effect. The metals which were so largely employed, displayed a marvel of genius and constructive skill.

“The Temple was also an exhibition of order in its arrangements and the true adjustment for the needs of worship. The places for praise and sacrifice were fully adapted for their sacred purpose. Away from the site of the Temple itself, the preparations were carried on for its construction. All was fitted in silence, and the House grew out of its rocky foundation a rich growth in that stillness which ever marks true growth in nature or man.

“Solomon built the Temple as a divine trust bequeathed to him. He built it to furnish the Ark of the Covenant a fixed resting place; as a home for an abiding priesthood in which all lesser priesthoods should mingle and find their completion. He built it as a sanctuary for the worship of his people, and to be a type of the sanctuaries of worship for all time. And so now long after Jerusalem has dropped from the roll of nations, the Temple with its glories still lives in the glowing remembrance of Gentile thought, and suggests the prophecy that when the world shall pass away, man redeemed shall worship with noble praise and a higher priesthood in that House not made with hands, whose Builder and Maker is God.

“Doubtless according to Rabbinical story, Solomon followed that custom which seems to have obtained in the erection of all public structures. It was the custom of ancient, as it is of modern times, for the royal builder or chief man to lay the corner-stone with his own hands. This stone usually bore the name of the founder. Tradition tells us that the King of Israel had the Tetragrammaton or the unspeakable Name of Jehovah engraved on the foundation stone of the Temple. This custom gave authority and seeming permanence to the structure. With the Temple at least, it forecasts the words of the prophet, ‘Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation, a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner-stone, a sure foundation.’

“The Temple that stood on Mount Zion is the foundation of many of the principles and much of the informing ritual of our Masonic Order. It is through this sacred structure that we claim kindred with the greatest of Israel's Kings. Through this, he becomes our study, and our Institution links this marvelous present with the symbols of that immortal Hebrew past. The magnificent ideals that wrought themselves into stone, the glorious truths that embodied themselves in sublime liturgy, have furnished us with never-ending suggestions of enterprise, as builders of a moral Temple that shall abide everlasting as man is everlasting.

“But not only must a splendid House of worship be built for the nation, but Jerusalem itself must be a city worthy of the Temple. The Holy City must rival the massive architecture of the cities of the kingdoms in the East and South. So the king encouraged the building of the noble edifices. A new palace for his Egyptian queen takes the place of the palace of David. It is a monument of the wealth and glory of the kingdom. In front of the palace stood the Porch of Judgment with its floor of cedar wood. In this Porch, Solomon held court to decide those questions which came before him. As he sat there on his ivory throne, known as the throne of the house of David, he enshrined anew the old patriarchal custom which gave judgment sitting in the gates. This throne was reached by six steps, on each of which stood two lions in gold, emblems of the Lions of the Tribe of Judah. Behind the throne was the House of the Forest of Lebanon. In this were the two hundred gold bound targets for the guards of the palace. And here also were the three hundred shields embossed with gold; and as they hung on the outer walls and caught the rays of the sun, they formed pictures of dazzling magnificence.

“In the palace were the banqueting chambers with their elaborate and rich furniture. A brilliant retinue of attendants completes the necessary arrangements of the royal household. And as the voice of minstrels or the strains of triumphant music rose through the marble halls, the court presented a scene of perpetual holiday.

“In his later years, he presents himself in a two-fold aspect. He gives a picture of strength and weakness, of the knowledge of his high gifts and a conscious abuse of those gifts. He is the sublimest of contradictions. He stands up in history like a pillar of fire and cloud; one side

all bright, the other all dark, with its shadow not for shelter but for evil. In the fullness of his fame and earthly power, 'he did evil in the sight of the Lord and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God.' He took many wives out of Moab, Edom and Canaan, and through them introduced to his own people the superstitions of their nations. This combination of gifts and weakness on his part brought with it the revenge of an unavailing remorse. There was in him, as in the human heart everywhere, an inborn sensitiveness to goodness and truth. As his mind turned in upon itself and looked back over the dreary wastes of his life, the dulled activities, the unfulfilled prophesies of achievement, there rose up a sadness overpowering the whole man. There came a sense of bitterness for the wasted energies, for the evil influences, for the betrayal of trust; a sense of vain longing for the years when life was in its fresh spring-tide and truth was opening on the clear unpolluted soul as with the glory of the full day. And yet to him, as far as the outward eye could see, there came no turning point in the heart; no resolute rising up of the will to repair the broken manhood and make the closing days of his life as prophetic with hope as when a youth he ascended the throne, a king. In that hour of retrospect when the vision was clearest, his wrecked life floated before him like the fragments of a ship on a pitiless sea. In the despair of his heart he cries out, 'Vanity of vanities! all is vanity.'

"Like other great characters in Hebrew history, legend not only thus tells of his death but gathers around him a host of wondrous deeds and marvelous story. His fame penetrated into the manifold forms of Eastern thought and Eastern life. It cast a strange spell over the rich and warm fancies of Arabia. It moulded the art of her magicians and became an abiding power in the mystery of her incantations. It served to interpret her weird philosophy of the stars, as in all Oriental lands they are connected with the fate of man. If Solomon himself did not practice magic, at least the impression of his magical power lay at the root, and gave a certain shape to those systems of enchantment which have held in splendid fascination the mind of so many in the East. The fame of the king has lived on, an influence to later times, so that in the clash of modern warfare, in the Suleiman Pashas we find his name fashioned to that of Mahometan generals.

"But with immediate results to himself his fame passed

on like his traffic to distant lands and brought many to be taught by him in that wisdom which was bestowed as a divine gift to the princely dreamer at Gibeon. One instance is so remarkable that history specially records it. The queen of Sheba, in her Arabian palace hearing of a king whose wisdom was beyond that of man and whose reign was so prosperous, left her home to see and converse with so great a king. She appeared before him and asked him difficult questions which she had skillfully prepared. The king answered her with masterly completeness. Then after viewing the palace, the temple, the rich architecture of Jerusalem, the pools from which water was obtained for the city, and the tokens of abundance, she exclaimed in astonishment, "It was a true report that I heard in my own land of thy acts and thy wisdom." "And behold the half was not told me; thy wisdom and thy prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard."

"Let us now turn from his material works and from the fame of his wisdom to his writings. We must try so far as we can to separate them from the personality of the man; at least as they bear on his moral character in his more advanced life. But though we separate the man and his works, we must remember that he was so marvelous a contradiction, that his higher moral personality ever blends with his writings. His prayer for wisdom by the old altar of the Tabernacle was a noble prayer. By wisdom he was not only to govern rightly, but to fill up the lofty ideals and work out into practical issues the yearnings within him. This wisdom granted him pierced into much that was dark in the rude philosophy of things about him. He was like one that sits on a hill with the lingering night holding all things in solution or shadow, and waits for the morning. He saw at first dim shapes, undefinable forms, whether substance or shadow he could not tell. But his wisdom like the breaking dawn made a revelation. The mists vanish, the hills and the wood stand out in their true form, and all things are bathed in the clear white light.

"There is for us and for all men who would lead true lives, a practical lesson to be learned from the failures of the great character before us. We must not forget our highest duties in our surroundings. Life and work call us to awaken from our dreams of inactivity, lest opportunity slip away from us as it did from the King of Israel, lulled as he was to forgetfulness by the sounds of luxury. An Eastern legend

brings the truth in a picture to our minds. In a garden watered by a river but unused by man, stands a magnificent palace. The place is sweet with flowers and the odor of spices. In a hall of the palace are stone couches on which rest a company of men in deep sleep. They hear not, they see not, they move not, only as now and then some mysterious being touches them. For an instant the sleepers move or speak as one speaks in a dream, and then as the strange visitant passes on they fall back into slumber. So it is too often with men; they are like the fabled sleepers in the Eastern palace. Grandly endowed with faculties to fill out the duties of life, they sleep as in a dream. Life awakens in them for a brief space, when some angel vision touches their slumbering powers, and the opportunities of life are seen through the shadowy activities of a dream. All the higher powers, all the nobler aspirations, all the energy of endeavor are utterly wasted. The dulled spirits forget their birth-right, and awake only for a time beneath the enchanter's wand to some call of duty, to lie down again into dreamy, unfruitful sleep.

"From all this let us see the greatness of life and its responsibilities. Life is great in all its influences, and on its right use depends its abiding success. Its deeds are everlasting, and carry with them for ourselves and others everlasting issues. Its moments, its days, its months are burdened with eternity. This truth is the call, the touch of the mysterious being to awaken and cultivate the manhood within us into nobler proportions for work; to use the gifts we may possess to quicken the springs of action; and to turn all our information to our mental and moral profit. So obeying the call, so working, we shall gain a clearer vision for our judgment, an increase of strength for our reason, until life itself shall be a sustaining and controlling force. So shall we live according to the higher laws of our being; every faculty doing its own work and the moral powers fulfilling every duty as a consecrated thing. Then shall our lives not end in failure like that of the Israelitish King, but be an ever-growing progress to higher and still higher development. And when the day of life passes into the night of death, we shall enter into the revelation of things to come, and in the kingdom that is afar off we shall be crowned kings; the mortal and imperfect nature glorified by Him who crowns us, into the immortal and the perfect."

David F. Day, Buffalo, Grand High Priest.

Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Durham, June 3d, 1879, Most Excellent Comp. Charles W. Alexander, Grand High Priest, presiding. Ten Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, speaks of a Masonic Charity as follows:

“ OXFORD ORPHAN ASYLUM.

“ This institution, founded in Masonic charity, and under the especial control of the Grand Lodge, nurtured and fostered by the churches and benevolent societies throughout the State, has grown into such importance that the last Legislature, with all its ideas of retrenchment and reform, actually made an annual appropriation of three thousand dollars for its support. The great State of North Carolina should have done even more than this many years ago.

“ I deem it only necessary to call your attention to this the grandest charity of the age, which so urgently appeals to every generous impulse of our nature.

“ We gather from the superintendent's report, that, for six years past, four hundred and forty-eight orphans have been admitted to the Asylum, and that of this number two hundred and eighteen had neither father nor mother. The average number sustained is one hundred and thirty, and one-third of these have been the children of Masons. Out of the whole number received at the Asylum during this time, only six have died. The average cost of supporting an orphan is five dollars per month, or sixty dollars per annum. Religious services are held regularly at the Asylum by ministers of the various denominations in that vicinity. These facts show that the affairs of the Asylum are ably and economically managed, for which our beloved and efficient superintendent, Brother Mills, deserves and receives the gratitude of every benevolent heart in North Carolina.”

The Report on Correspondence, by Comp. James Southgate, is very brief. Pennsylvania, for 1878, has received a casual glance, and receives the benefit of one line.

C. M. Van Orsdell, Wilmington, Grand High Priest.

Donald W. Bain, Raleigh, Grand Secretary.

NEVADA—1879.

Annual Grand Convocation held in Virginia, June 9th, 1879, Most Excellent Comp. Philip Seldner, Grand High Priest, presiding. Eight Chapters represented.

We notice from the Grand High Priest's address, that Comp. Dennis F. Dealy has been appointed the Representative near this Grand Chapter, and that Comp. Leon M. L. Baldwin was received as our Representative.

The following was adopted:

“Resolved, That Section 5, Article XX, of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, is hereby stricken out; and be it further Resolved, That the Companions now holding Life Membership Certificates be requested to surrender the same to the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Secretary be, and he is, hereby authorized to draw his warrant on the Treasurer in favor of each of said Companions for the sum of one hundred dollars.”

Comp. John D. Hammond presented the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-two Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1878, being of the number, and receiving fraternal notice.

David E. Baily, Eureka, Grand High Priest.

John D. Hammond, Carson, Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Concord, May 20th, 1879, M. E. Comp. John J. Bell, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Seventeen Chapters represented.

The following decision was made:

“It is not necessary that the member of a Chapter should remain an affiliated member of a Lodge. He must be a Mason. When suspended or expelled from Masonry by a Lodge having jurisdiction, his membership in the Chapter is at once and by that act suspended. When the Grand Lodge revokes and annuls the action of the Lodge below, the sentence of the Lodge ceases to be operative, and he resumes his status as a Mason. No notice of this action need be communicated from one body to the other.”

With us in Pennsylvania a Royal Arch Mason who has dimited from his Master Mason Lodge and remains dimited for a longer period than six months, at the end of that period *ipso facto* loses his membership in the Chapter. This is the law of our Grand Chapter. A Royal Arch Mason *must* be a member of a Lodge in good standing.

This decision we find was not approved of by Grand Chapter but was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Comp. A. S. Wait writes the Report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of thirty-three Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1877, included.

He quotes the hackneyed paragraphs about the installation of our Grand High Priest, when none but Past High Priests who have received the Order of High Priesthood are present.

George W. Currier, Nashua, Grand High Priest.

George P. Cleaves, Concord, Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA—1878.

Annual Convocation held in Omaha on December 17, 1878. Most Excellent Comp. Edwin F. Warren, Grand High Priest, presiding. Nine Chapters represented.

Comp. Warren is an advocate of the merging of the Council and Chapter Degrees, and the Grand Chapter sided with him. Here is what he says, and it will be observed that the doctors disagree:

“It has been suggested in some jurisdictions that the Degree of Royal Master be conferred immediately after, or in conjunction with that of Mark Master, and the Degree of Select Master after that of the Royal Arch. Such a plan does not seem to me as proper or feasible, as for the Chapters to open a Council, in the same manner and for the same reason that we open Lodges of Mark or Most Excellent Masters. I would not *destroy* the identity of the Council to so great an extent as the separation of its Degrees would effect, nor do I think it would overshadow the Chapter. The rule that all business must be transacted in the ‘highest’ degree would, of course, have no application. I do not think that the Chapters will become unwieldy or ‘overloaded,’ as some

have feared, because the two organizations can be kept so far distinct as not to interfere with each other, and yet be under the control of the Grand Chapter.

If we so determine, the Council Degrees can perhaps be lawfully conferred in the Chapter, until the same shall be forbidden by the General Grand Chapter—a contingency not likely to happen, if we may judge from the turn matters seem to be taking in our sister jurisdictions. I say the conferring thereof will, ‘perhaps,’ be lawful; though I am of opinion that Section 9 of Article I of the General Grand Chapter Constitution contains a very *broad insinuation* that they are irregular, and would have no place in any just and duly constituted Chapter.”

He decided that the Secretary of a Chapter had the undoubted right to accept a check drawn upon a bank for the Chapter Degrees.

He very properly decided a section in their Constitution exempting clergymen from the payment of dues, null and void.

Comp. Wm. R. Bowen submitted the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1877 included. He speaks of us thusly :

“A marked difference exists between these Proceedings and the others we have examined. We admire the concise record, the simplicity of titles, and the terseness of reports of committees. Their ‘Masonic Temple’ is a temple. They elect no Deputy Grand High Priest, but the Grand High Priest appoints *his* deputies for the several districts. The printed record of four quarterly and one annual convocation is contained in twenty-six pages. Some of these methods could be advantageously adopted in Nebraska, and probably will be by the time Nebraska is as old as Pennsylvania.”

Of Comp. Worrell’s report, he says :

“He presents much information; makes few comments, and objects only to the absence of reviews in some jurisdictions. Nebraska receives kind mention.”

Francis E. White, Plattsmouth, Grand High Priest.

William R. Bowen, Omaha, Grand Secretary.

OHIO—1878.

The Annual Convocation was held in Columbus, October 10th, 1878. Most Excellent Comp. James W. Underhill, Grand High Priest. A constitutional number of Chapters being represented.

We notice that a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened in ample form, a Grand Treasurer appointed; Committee on Credentials presented their report, after which the Grand Chapter of Ohio was opened. We Pennsylvanians are credited with doing things in a *peculiar* manner, but this is more peculiar than anything we have ever done.

The following decisions were made:

“A Chapter cannot grant jurisdiction over any part of its territory to another Chapter.

“A person under suspension in his Lodge cannot be legally elected an officer in his Chapter, and if so elected, the election is void.

“It is proper for a Chapter to give notice to a Commandery of the suspension or expulsion of a member who is also a member of the Commandery, and upon proper application it is the duty of the Chapter so to do.

“In case the petition of a Royal Arch Mason for affiliation is rejected, his dimit must be returned to him undorsed and unmutilated.

“A Chapter under dispensation cannot receive members by affiliation.

“After a mark has been selected and entered on record, it cannot be changed.

“The officers of a Chapter cannot apply for a dispensation for a new Chapter.”

An invitation was received and accepted to visit the Penitentiary at convenience.

A resolution looking to a merging of the Council Degrees was not agreed to.

It was agreed that \$25 be paid annually to the Committee on Correspondence.

Comp. Thomas J. Melish reported on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania, for 1878, of the number.

He says:

“Quarterly Communications were held at Philadelphia, February 1st, May 3d, and August 2d. The business done would not pay for lighting up their hall.”

This we heard last year from Comp. Dana, of Vermont, and made reply that these meetings *did* pay us for “lighting up the Hall.” We were on the spot and know whereof we speak.

Again he says:

“At the ‘Annual Grand Communication,’ December 27, 1877, the Grand Officers were duly installed, after all but Past High Priests who had received the Order of High Priesthood had been excluded. We suppose the meaning of this is that the ceremony of installation combines the features of the High Priesthood, but we don’t know. Pennsylvania Masonry has peculiar features, and this is one of them.”

We have so often written on this subject, we have no desire to take up the space required to again reply; what we have written can be read.

James W. Underhill, Canton, Grand High Priest.

James Nesbitt, Troy, Grand Secretary.

OREGON—1879.

The Annual Convocation was held in Portland, June 6 and 7, 1879. Most Excellent Comp. J. B. Congle, Grand High Priest, presiding. Fourteen Chapters represented.

A most interesting history of the Grand Chapter and Royal Arch Masonry in Oregon was submitted by Comp. James R. Bayley.

A committee was appointed to unite the Capitular with Cryptic Masonry.

Comp. Thomas McF. Patton presents the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1877 included. The report is most excellent. The discussion of the question, “Are the Reports on Foreign Correspondence worth what they cost?”

is able. We have in former reports spoken on this subject, and here say that we have gained more true Masonic light and information from these Reports than from a majority of the books in our library. They contain usually all that is worth preserving of thousands of pages of printed Proceedings, and as compared to the mileage and per diem expenses, of infinitely more use to the Craft.

Comp. Patton's remarks on the effect of suspension is worth recording:

"Had the General Grand Chapter devoted less time to excursions, parades and feasts, it is possible, barely possible, that we might have had an *opinion*, at least, as to the effect of such suspension.

"Companion Drummond, of Maine, in his reply to our remarks last year on the subject of non-payment of dues, says, in concluding his argument:

"'At any rate, we in Maine have an usage for more than one hundred years to justify our law, that the penalty for non-payment of dues shall be *only suspension* from or deprivation of membership.'

"We do not consider this as conclusive by any means. Simply because Maine has tolerated for more than a hundred years a custom which finally became a law, recognizing a *quasi* punishment or penalty, called for convenience *suspension*, which in fact is not suspension, it does not necessarily follow that it is a law which we are bound to respect.

"This image which our good Companion has caused to be erected in the Province of Maine, like that erected by Nebuchadnezzar of old in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon, even though it be 'three score cubits in height and six cubits in breadth,' and we are peremptorily commanded by the ruling sovereign and summoned by the alluring strains of sweet music produced by Companion Drummond with his *cornet*, or by Companion Robertson, of Canada, with his *flute*, or by Companion Williams, of Arkansas, with his *harp*, or by Companion Bell, of New Hampshire, with his *sackbut*, or by Companion Gossip, of Nova Scotia, with his *psaltery*, or by Companion Dadmun, of Massachusetts, with his *dulcimer*, and all other kinds of music combined, we respectfully, but positively, absolutely and unconditionally refuse to bow down and worship the image which our modern Nebuchadnezzar has set up.

“With our true and tried Companions, Corson, of New Jersey, Meyer, of Pennsylvania, and Cottrill, of Wisconsin, as our prototypes of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, we hear the music, remember the penalty, but persistently refuse.

“When one jurisdiction regards suspension as an absolute *bona fide* suspension, if inflicted for *any cause*, and another regards it as limited, partial or absolute, according to the cause for which it is inflicted, it is time to stop and consider the evil resulting therefrom. We do not wonder that Companion Meyer has declared his intention of recommending to the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania that visitors from jurisdictions, where the right of a Blue Lodge to suspend is questioned in this manner, be required to declare that they do not stand suspended in their Blue Lodges *for any cause whatsoever*. Companion Drummond says he is opposed to the *mixing* of Lodge and Chapter matters. Taking this declaration with the subject matter which called out the remark, we are led to infer that he is opposed to a Lodge governing or controlling in any manner the standing of a Chapter Mason. To be eligible to become even a candidate for the Chapter Degrees he must be a Master Mason ‘*in good standing*.’ We believe this law is universally recognized, the only question of difference being, what constitutes a Mason in good standing? Whether a Mason who has been ‘*only suspended*’ from membership for simply violating his O. B. and refusing to pay his honest dues to his Lodge, or, in other words, whether one who has been kicked out of his Lodge enjoys the same rights and privileges in the Chapter as the one who has remained true and faithful to every trust reposed in him, who has been zealous in good works and who has never even been under charges, much less suffered actual suspension?

“Ordinary respect for the principles of common honesty would prompt us to say, there should be, and *is*, a marked distinction. It is this distinction which causes us also to be opposed to the *mixing* of Lodge and Chapter matters, to this extent only: That Master Masons suspended by their Lodge *for any cause* should not freely *mix* with Chapter Masons while under such suspension.”

We could quote at great length from this report.

John B. Congle, Portland, Grand High Priest.

Robert P. Earhart, Salem, Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND—1879.

The Annual Convocation was held in Providence, March 11, 1879. Most Excellent Comp. Rev. William N. Ackley, Grand High Priest. Nine Chapters represented.

Past High Priests were admitted as members of the Grand Chapter.

Comps. George H. Burnham and George M. Carpenter report on Correspondence.

Under the head of Pennsylvania, quoting from our last report, they say :

“In his review of the General Grand Chapter he says, ‘it is well known that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has no connection with the so-called General Grand Chapter of the United States. * * * We recognize the General Grand Chapter as the peer and equal of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania the same as we recognize the several State Grand Chapters as our peers.’ But it is hardly the peer of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, or of any Grand Chapter, as it exists only by the sufferance of these, and has not in itself a single element of vitality, nor the power of preserving itself from dissolution. No State Grand Chapter within our knowledge is thus situated.”

The report is short and to the point, and is most excellent.

Rev. William N. Ackley, Warren, Grand High Priest.

William R. Greene, Providence, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Charleston, February 11, 1879. Most Excellent Comp. W. G. DeSaussure, Grand High Priest, presiding. Twenty Chapters represented.

Among his decisions the following is worthy of notice :

“The first was as follows: A Brother had been elected to receive the Capitular Degree, ‘and upon the conferring of the Degree of P. M. he left the hall before the charge was read to him, and would not return; is he entitled to the other Degrees?’

“The response to such inquiry was: ‘The charge in all the Degrees appears to be an integral part of the Degree, and until an applicant has received it, he has not been entirely

initiated in such Degree. It therefore appears to me that the Brother must attend and receive the charge before he can be received and acknowledged.' ”

The question may be asked, why did the candidate leave the hall before the Degree was concluded, if the charge is necessarily a part of the Degree? It is often omitted, and in such a case, is the Brother not what he professes himself to be?

The following shows further complication in the suspension for non-payment of dues:

“The second inquiry was: ‘In the case of the erasure of the name of a Master Mason from the roll of his Lodge for non-payment of dues, what is his status in the Chapter? Is his offence one against Masonry, or only against the By-Laws of his particular Lodge? If his standing is good in his Chapter, how could he visit another Chapter and take the Tyler’s oath, when he has no standing in his Lodge? Could an application for the Degrees in the Chapter be entertained from a Master Mason whose name had been erased from the roll of his Lodge?’

“The responses to such inquiries were as follows:

“1. Erasure from membership in a Lodge for non-payment of dues, does not affect his status in his particular Chapter.

“2. A Mason unaffiliated by reason of erasure of his name from membership in his Lodge for non-payment of dues, cannot be accepted as a candidate in any Chapter in this jurisdiction.

“3. Such a Mason holds his membership unaffected in his particular Chapter, but cannot be admitted as a visitor in any other Chapter while so unaffiliated.”

Which means that if he were a candidate he would not be worthy, yet as a Royal Arch Mason he is all right in his own Chapter only.

The third may strike Companion Drummond as strange, who holds that the suspended-for-non-payment-of-dues Mason is in good standing, while Comp. DeSaussure says he cannot visit.

No Report on Correspondence.

W. G. DeSaussure, Charleston, Grand High Priest.

J. E. Burke, Charleston, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS—1878.

Annual Convocation, held in Houston, December 12th, 1878. Most Excellent Comp. Wm. Bramlette, Grand High Priest, presiding. Sixty Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest speaking of the manner in which they receive Grand Representatives, says :

“To see one of these Grand Representatives, with perhaps, the honors of a half dozen Grand Bodies resting upon his shoulders, present himself in Grand Lodge, or Grand Chapter, and with all the dignity of two Grand Masters, stand forth to be introduced and to receive the homage of his Brethren, not only excites our risible nature, but raises the wish that the Brother had not suffered himself to be placed in, what seems to me so awkward a position.”

He made the following decision :

“A protest, after ballot, by an affiliated Companion in this jurisdiction, acts as an estoppel of the brother until the objection is withdrawn, or twelve months shall have expired. The Companion who objects to the advancement of a brother has the right to claim as great secrecy as the ballot box affords.

“The notice of protest should be entered on the records, not, however, giving the name of the Companion objecting; and unless objection is withdrawn, no further action should be taken until the expiration of twelve months, at which time another ballot may be taken.”

He plainly speaks his opinion of the General Grand Chapter, and in no complimentary terms.

Exhaustive reports *pro* and *con* a union with the General Grand Chapter of the United States were made, and the report of the committee against the union was carried with but one dissenting voice.

Comp. Robt. M. Elgin finishes the report on Correspondence, reviewing among a large number of Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1878. He says :

“If for nothing else, we like her for her peculiarities, not that we would prefer to adopt all of them, however. Especially the one which requires all members who have not been consecrated High Priest to retire during ceremony of in-

stalling the Grand High Priest. We have not yet heard a reason assigned for it. What is it, Comp. Worrell?"

We have so often answered this question that we must refer our Comp. Elgin to our previous reports.

G. M. McWhirter, Belton, Grand High Priest.

Robert Brewster, Houston, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT—1879.

Annual Convocation, held in Burlington, June 13, 1879. Most Excellent Comp. Edward S. Dana, Grand High Priest, presiding. Constitutional number of Councils present.

The business mostly of a local nature. The entire time occupied by the annual session was about four or five hours.

The Report on Correspondence is by the Grand High Priest, Companion Dana, and reviews among other Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1878.

For the *flattering* and *fraternal* notice of ourself, thanks.

Alfred A. Hall, St. Albans, Grand High Priest.

William H. Whitcomb, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA—1878.

Annual Convocation, held in Richmond, December 12th, 1878. Most Excellent Comp. Alfred S. Lee, Grand High Priest, presiding. Twenty-one Chapters represented.

In the address of the Grand High Priest, he says:

"A resolution was offered at your last Grand Annual Convocation, to change the order of the Past Master's Degree and place it first in the series. It is not necessary for me to intrude my views in advance on this subject, but I would remark that many eminent Masons in our sister jurisdictions are in favor of remitting it back to the Lodges, where they say it properly belongs. If I mistake not, this question will be before the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, by whose decision many of our sister Grand Chapters must abide, and with whom it is desirable to maintain uniformity of work. We have frequently felt the inconvenience of having visitors from other juris-

dictions, where the Council Degrees were not, as with us, conferred in the Chapters. I think we shall not much longer experience this inconvenience, as many of the Grand Chapters are taking charge of the Council Degrees, and I think all of them ere long will follow our example in this respect."

Of the Order of High Priesthood, he says:

"I beg to present herewith a resolution of a Council of High Priests for your consideration, and would respectfully urge you to adopt some plan by which a knowledge of the Degree of High Priesthood could be more generally diffused. Under our present regulations the Council is appointed annually, and the Grand High Priest is usually confined to the necessity of appointing the same President or Chairman, and no one else takes the trouble to learn the Degree so as to be able to confer it in ample form. I think if a regular Council were organized with power to elect their own officers, who should not be permitted to remain in office more than two years, a knowledge of the Degree would be more generally diffused, as the Vice President would feel it to be his duty to be well posted in the Degree by the time he would be expected to take the position of President."

We very much regret the following:

"The resolution laid over from the last Grand Annual Convocation concerning the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales was called up, whereupon it was

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter respectfully declines the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England and Wales."

We had the honor of first presenting the claims of this Grand Body to the American Grand Chapters. We carefully examined its organization, &c., and on a statement of the facts the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania recognized the Grand Mark Lodge of England. All that they request is that they be recognized as the head of Mark Master Masonry in England and Wales, and that their certificates be acknowledged. It is strange that these certificates are accepted in every other State of the Union except Virginia.

The business of Grand Chapter is discussed first in a committee of the whole, which is presided over by a *chairman*, and the minutes are attested by a *clerk*.

Will Comp. Isaacs let us know the particular benefit of such proceedings?

A Grand Council of Order of the High Priesthood was organized under the following resolutions:

“*Resolved*, 1. That a permanent Council of the Order of High Priesthood be established by this Grand Chapter, consisting of all the present and Past High Priests, who have been duly anointed and reside in this jurisdiction.

“2. That the Most Excellent Grand High Priest be ex-officio the President of said Council, and when present shall preside. In his absence the Grand King, and in that of both, the Grand Scribe shall preside. But it shall be lawful for the Grand Council or for the Grand Chapter to delegate to said Council of Order of High Priesthood such chartered privileges as shall enable them to elect their President as well as other officers: *provided*, the inherent right of a member of the Grand Council, when present, to preside, shall not be infringed.

“3. That said Council shall meet annually at the place where the Grand Chapter shall be convoked, either during its session or immediately after its close; and also semi-annually, in the Hall of the Grand Chapter during the month of July.

“4. That special meetings of the Council shall be held by order of the President thereof, or of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and also at such other times as the by-laws may prescribe or shall be deemed necessary.

“5. That to meet the expenses attending its meetings, the Council be authorized to levy a tax of not more than one dollar per annum upon every member, unless by the consent of three-fourths of those present at an annual meeting; and a fee of not more than five dollars upon every High Priest, or upon every Chapter whose High Priest is anointed therein.

“6. That no candidate shall be anointed without producing the certificate of his election by his subordinate Chapter.

“7. The President of the Council shall be required to report annually to this Grand Chapter, a copy of the minutes of their proceedings which are proper to be written, with a complete list of their members, the date of their anointing, and their residence, for printing in our journal.

“8. Nothing herein contained shall prevent a commission of Past High Priests from conferring the Degree of High Priesthood when so directed by the Grand High Priest.”

Comp. Wm. B. Isaacs furnishes Report on Correspondence, which reviews Pennsylvania for 1877.

He is lavish in his praise of Comp. Worrell. He must have been in remarkable good humor when he wrote the report.

Alfred S. Lee, Richmond, Grand High Priest.

William B. Isaacs, Richmond, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN—1879.

Annual Convocation held in Milwaukee, February 18, 1879. Most Excellent Comp. Oliver Libbey, Grand High Priest, presiding. Forty-eight Chapters represented.

A notice was issued by the Committee having charge of the merging of the Chapter and Council Degrees, from which we extract:

"Sixth. Royal Arch Masons, members of Chapters in other States, cannot receive the Council Degrees in this State without permission from the Council in the jurisdiction in which they hold Chapter membership; *i. e.*, a Royal Arch Mason, resident of Wisconsin, holding Chapter membership in Illinois, cannot receive the Degrees in this State without permission from the Council appendant to the Chapter where he holds membership.

"Seventh. Your Committee are of the opinion:

"1st. That under the peculiar phase of circumstances attending the transfer of the control of the Councils to the Chapters, an 'objection' to the reception of these Degrees lodged against a Companion Royal Arch Mason in good standing in his Chapter will have no preventive effect."

And the following decision made:

"2. The question of payment or non-payment of dues is not to be considered in conferring the Council Degrees, provided the Companion is not under discipline. Each Companion on the roll of the Chapter, unless under charges or sentence, is entitled to those Degrees whether his dues are fully paid or not.

"3. Neither a Chapter nor its officers can properly refuse to confer the Council Degrees upon a Royal Arch Mason

applying therefor, provided he be a member of such Chapter in good standing."

A Devotional Service for opening and closing the Grand Chapter was adopted, and as it is novel, we give it in full:

"When assembled around the altar the following to be sung by the choir or read by the Grand Chaplain:

"Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory, O LORD God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

"(All kneeling.)

"*Grand Chaplain.*—Direct us O LORD in all our doings with Thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy holy name, and finally by Thy mercy obtain everlasting life for Thy goodness sake. Amen.

"*Response.*—So mote it be.

"*All.*—Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us, And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

"(Ceremonies peculiar to opening.)

"After which, all standing, chant 122d Psalm, or read the same responsively as follows:

"*Chaplain.*—I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the LORD.

"*Companions.*—Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.

"*Chaplain.*—Jerusalem is builded as a city that is at unity in itself.

"*Companions.*—For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD, to testify unto ISRAEL, to give thanks unto the name of the LORD.

"*Chaplain.*—For there is the seat of judgment, even the seat of the house of DAVID.

"*Companions.*—O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

“Chaplain.—Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

“Companions.—For my Brethren and Companions’ sakes, I will wish Thee prosperity.

“Chaplain.—Yea, because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do Thee good. Amen.

“Companions.—So mote it be.

CLOSING.

(Companions assembled around the altar.)

ODE.

*“LORD, dismiss us with Thy blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace ;
Let us each, Thy love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace ;
O refresh us,
Traveling through this wilderness.*

*“Thanks we give, and adoration,
For the Gospel’s joyful sound ;
May the fruits of Thy salvation
In our hearts and lives abound ;
May thy presence
With us evermore be found.*

“(All kneeling.)

“Chaplain.—O God, of whose grace it cometh that men dwell together in harmony, we yield Thee hearty thanks as for all Thy mercies, so especially for the spirit of peace, love and unity which has pervaded our Convocation. May Thy blessing rest upon us and all our Companions, and make our venerable Order a means in Thy hands, to maintain Thy word of truth and holiness in our midst, and be a blessing to the nations for Thy name’s sake. Amen.

“Response—So mote it be.

“All repeat the LORD’s Prayer.

“AFTER CEREMONIES.

“Chant or read responsively 133d Psalm.

“Chaplain.—Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is, Brethren, to dwell together in unity !

“Companions.—It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down unto the beard, even unto AARON’S beard, and went down to the skirts of his clothing.

“ *Chaplain.*—Like the dew of Hermon, which fell upon the hill of Zion.

“ *Companions.*—For there the LORD promised his blessing.

“ *Chaplain.*—And life forever more.”

After adopting the foregoing, the invitation of Wisconsin and St. John's Commanderies to a social party at the Plankington House, was accepted.

Comp. J. P. C. Cotrell presented Report on Correspondence, reviewing, amongst other Grand Chapter Proceedings, Pennsylvania for 1877. Of which he says:

“The volume recounts the Proceedings of four Quarterly and one Annual Convocation held at Philadelphia in 1877. Very little business was done at the Quarterlies, which suggests to us that one Annual Convocation would really suffice for all the business and accomplish all the necessary business. But, of course, we must stand ‘*super antiquas vias*,’ and not change. Yet at the first Quarterly eighteen subordinates only were represented—the numbers on the rolls running to two hundred and fifty-seven—and though opened in Ancient and Solemn Form, the entire business was the offering of a single constitutional amendment, and then the ‘Grand Chapter closed in peace.’ With this sparse attendance we do not wonder that the opening was solemn, or the close in peace. Very little business was done at the other Quarterlies, except the financial business and the election of officers at the fourth.

“At the Annual Convocation the Grand High Priest elect was installed—all but High Priests, upon whom the Order of High Priest had been conferred, having retired—and then those who had thus retired were admitted. Well, it is worth something at any rate to have the High Priesthood Order here.”

Oliver Libbey, Green Bay, Grand High Priest.

John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA—1877.

Annual Convocation held in Martinsburg, November 15, 1877. Most Excellent Comp. K. D. Walker, Grand High Priest, presiding. Twelve Chapters represented.

The following decisions were made:

“2d. Can a Chapter be opened in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe?

“Answer.—It cannot, except by the Grand High Priest in person, or by the Companion, named in his dispensation.

“3d. A Chapter is opened by a Past High Priest who is High Priest elect, but has not been installed, and work is done in the Mark and Past Degrees. What shall be done?

“Answer.—Let the Chapter be opened on the Mark and Past Degrees, by one properly authorized to do so, and the candidate re-obligated.”

On the question of merging the Council Degrees, the Grand High Priest says :

“If these Degrees are to be conferred at all, I am clearly of the opinion that they belong to the Chapters and should precede the Most Excellent Master's and Royal Arch Degrees. This is the chronological sequence of the events narrated, but I would much prefer to have our Chapters abandon entirely the attempt to confer these Degrees and embody in the explanatory lecture given by the High Priest upon the exaltation of the candidates all of the recital which these Degrees supply.”

The foregoing is the most sensible plan yet suggested for Chapters to obtain a knowledge of the Council Degrees.

On the question of joining the General Grand Chapter, he says :

“By resolution of the General Grand Chapter, the M. E. General Grand High Priest was requested to address a letter to the Grand Chapters of Virginia and West Virginia, fraternally inviting them to become constituents of that Grand Body. It will be proper for the Grand Chapter of West Virginia to determine, when the letter is received, what its reply shall be. I have only alluded to the matter here, because it is germane to the subject I have just been discussing, namely, the status of the so-called Council Degrees. If membership in the General Grand Chapter will compel us to abandon the conferring of these Degrees, I imagine that there will not soon be found many advocates of the change, but all this is matter for further consideration and does not fairly come before you for action at this time.”

The Grand Chapter recognized the Grand Mark Lodge of England.

The Eighth Annual Convocation was held in Wheeling, November 14, 1878. Most Excellent Comp. Kephart D. Walker, Grand High Priest, presiding. Eleven Chapters represented.

We notice that Most Excellent Comp. George W. Wood is the representative of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia near Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, and Most Excellent Comp. John W. Grantham is our representative. Of these appointments we have no note in our Proceedings.

John W. Grantham, Middleway, Grand High Priest.

Odell S. Long, Wheeling, Grand Secretary.

————:o:————

CONCLUSION.

The work of the past year has been favorable.

On the subject of the merging of the Council Degrees with the Chapters we expressed ourselves very fully in our last Report. Several Grand Chapters have assumed, without a shadow of constitutional right, the control of the Royal and Select Master's Degrees, and incorporated them into their Capitular system; they have given Chapters who under their warrants are only permitted to Mark, Pass, Receive and Accept Most Excellent Masters, and exalt; authority to open Councils of the Royal and Select Masters Degrees. This will in time, we feel assured, work to the detriment of Royal Arch Masonry, the officers have already more to learn than they can properly; and to have two additional Degrees to memorize is more than a large majority of High Priests can do.

Even in Mississippi, the pioneer of the new movement, they find it impracticable; the officers of the Chapters there have not the work, the Royal Arch Masons do not crave its mysteries, and it has finally been proposed to hire a Grand Lecturer who is conversant as a Ritualist with the *Six Degrees* of the *Mississippi Rite*. It was sought to make the Chapters responsible for the expenses of this Grand Lecturer or traveling Chapter, but, if we recollect correctly, the Chapters most respectfully declined.

A number of Most Excellent Companions have passed within the inner veil, and are now enjoying eternal rest after the journeying over the rough and rugged roads of this world's life.

As we finish this report, on this the 25th day of December, the happiest, merriest day in the whole year, we hastily seize the glass of "Wass Heil," and as the clock strikes 12 noon, in company with the Foreign Correspondents in this country (in which Brothers Hughan, Whytehead, Woodford and Gould, of England, and Neilson of Dublin join with us), we drink Good Health and Prosperity, and hearty good wishes to all.

And now, beginning a new Masonic year, we crave indulgence for anything in this Report that may jar or wound the feelings of our Companion Reporters. The language of the following neat little poem, contains excellent advice, very hard to follow, but as it expresses our feelings, we would say :

LET IT PASS.

BE not swift to take offence ;

Let it pass !

Anger is a foe to sense !

Let it pass !

Brood not darkly o'er a wrong ;

Which will disappear ere long ;

Rather sing this cheery song—

Let it pass !

Let it pass !

Strife corrodes the purest mind ;

Let it pass !

As the unregarded wind,

Let it pass !

Any vulgar souls that live,

May condemn without reprieve ;

'Tis the noble who forgive,

Let it pass !

Let it pass !

Echo not an angry word ;

Let it pass !

Think how often you have erred ;

Let it pass !

Since our joys must pass away
 Like the dew-drops on the spray,
 Wherefore should our sorrows stay ?

Let it pass !

Let it pass !

If for good you've taken ill ;

Let it pass !

Oh, be kind and gentle still !

Let it pass !

Time at last makes all things straight ;

Let us not resent, but wait,

And our triumph shall be great ;

Let it pass !

Let it pass !

Bid your anger to depart ;

Let it pass !

Lay these homely words to heart :

“ Let it pass ! ”

Follow not the giddy throng ;

Better to be wronged than wrong ;

Therefore, sing the cheery song—

Let it pass !

Let it pass !

CHARLES E. MEYER,

For the Committee.

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS

AND

MARK LODGES.

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

CHAPTERS, &C, MEETING IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

NO.	NAME.	NIGHT OF MEETING.
3	Jerusalem,	Fourth Monday.
52	Harmony,	First Friday.
91	Columbia,	Third Wednesday.
169	Philadelphia,	Third Monday.
175	Keystone,	Second Thursday.
183	Oriental,	Third Thursday.
226	Siloam,	Third Wednesday.
232	St. John,	First Tuesday.
233	Kensington,	Fourth Monday.
240	Palestine,	Second Friday.
243	Tristram B. Freeman,	First Monday.
248	Temple,	Third Tuesday.
250	Corinthian,	First Monday.
251	Signet,	Fourth Tuesday.

MARK LODGES.

91	Columbia,	Second Monday.
214	Girard,	Second Tuesday.
216	Excelsior,	Third Tuesday.

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.		
		COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	NO	NAME.	NIGHT OF MEETING.
1	Andrew J. Kaufman, of Columbia.	Lancaster Columbia York Adams Chester Chester Delaware Delaware Delaware Dauphin Cumberland Cumberland Franklin Fulton Montgomery Montgomery Montgomery Bucks Bucks Chester Berks Berks Lebanon Schuylkill Schuylkill Schuylkill Schuylkill	Lancaster Columbia York West Chester Oxford Media Fernwood Chester Harrisburg Carlisle Mechanicsburg Chambersburg Norristown Fort Washington Jenkintown Newtown Bristol Phoenixville Reading Reading Lebanon Minersville Tamaqua Pottsville Ashland	43 224 199 202 223 234 256 258 21 171 209 176 190 220 245 229 231 198 152 237 197 159 177 196 219	Corinthian Howell Howell Oxford Media Fernwood Chester Perseverance St. John's S. C. Perkins Geo. Washington Norristown Fort Washington Abington Newtown Bristol Phoenix Reading Excelsior Weidle Schuylkill Tamaqua Mountain City Griseom	Fourth Wednesday. Second Tuesday. Second Wednesday. Monday after Full Moon. Wednesday after Full Moon. Thursday after Full moon. Wednesday on or bef. F. M. First Thursday. First Thursday. Second Monday. Third Monday. Second Monday. Thursday before Full Moon. Tuesday after Full Moon. Wednesday after Full Moon. Saturday after Full Moon. Saturday after Full Moon. Second Monday. First Wednesday. Second Tuesday. Tuesday on or before F. M. Friday after Full Moon. Monday after Full Moon. Third Thursday.
2	Edward S. Worrell, of Chester.					
3	Robert Snodgrass, of Har- risburg.					
4	John Slingsluff, of Norris- town.					
5	Frederick W. Lauer, of Reading.					
6	Abraham K. Whitner, of Pottsville.					

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.		
		COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	NO.	NAME.	NIGHT OF MEETING.
7	Bernard E. Lehman, of Bethlehem.	Schuylkill.....	Tremont.....	221	Tremont.....	Monday after Full Moon.
		Schuylkill.....	Mahanoy City....	252	Mizpah.....	Thursday after Full Moon.
		Northampton.....	Easton.....	173	Easton.....	Fourth Monday.
		Northampton.....	Bethlehem... ..	216	Zinzendorf.....	Second Monday.
		Lehigh.....	Allentown	203	Allen	Monday on or bef. F. M.
8	Thaddeus S. Hillard, of Wilkes-Barre.	Carbon.....	Mauch Chunk....	181	Lilly.....	Fourth Tuesday.
		Luzerne.....	Wilkes-Barre....	182	Shekinah.....	Third Tuesday.
		Luzerne.....	Plymouth.....	214	Valley.....	Friday on or before F. M.
		Luzerne.....	Pittston.....	242	Pittston.....	Last Thurs. of each month.
		Monroe .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
9	Jas. H. Coddington, of To- wanda.	Lackawanna.....	Carbondale.....	179	Eureka.....	Wednesday after Full Moon.
		Lackawanna.....	Scranton.....	185	Lackawanna.....	Second Tuesday.
		Bradford.....	Towanda.....	161	Union.....	First Friday.
		Wyoming.....	Tunkhannock....	172	Temple	Monday after Full Moon.
		Wyoming.....	Factoryville.....	205	Factoryville.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.
10	Jno. H. Dusenberry, of Great Bend.	Sullivan.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Susquehanna.....	Montrose.....	180	Warren	Thursday on or before F. M.
11	Henry W. Williams, of Wellsboro'.	Susquehanna.....	Great Bend.....	210	Great Bend.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
		Pike.....	Wellsboro'	194	Tioga.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
12	O. H. Ostrander, of Dan- ville.	Tioga.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Potter.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		McKean.....	Port Allegheny....	254	Arnold.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.
		Columbia.....	Catawissa.....	178	Catawissa.....	First Wednesday.
		Columbia.....	Bloomsburg.....	218	Bloomsburg.....	First Monday.
		Montour.....	Danville.....	239	Danville.....	Tuesday before Full Moon.
		Northumberland...	Sunbury.....	174	Northumberland..	Wednesday after Full Moon.
		Northumberland..	Watson town	246	Warrior Run.....	.....

13	Geo. S. Snyder, of Williamsport.	Lycoming..... Clinton..... Centre..... Union..... Snyder..... Elk..... Cameron..... Blair..... Blair..... Cambria..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	Williamsport..... Lock Haven..... Bellefonte.....	222 163 241	Lycoming..... La Fayette..... Bellefonte.....	Second Tuesday. Thursday after Full Moon.
14	Gilman T. Wheeler, of Ridgway.	Ridgway..... Emporium..... Hollidaysburg..... Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	Ridgway..... Emporium..... Hollidaysburg..... Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	230 227 166 189 195 201 255 228 238 186	Elk..... Emporium..... Mt. Moriah..... Mountain..... Portage..... Standing Stone..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Newport..... Lewistown.....	Third Tuesday. First and Third Wednesday. Third Tuesday. First Thursday. Fourth Tuesday. First Tuesday. Third Wednesday. Second Monday after F. M. Third Tuesday.
15	Edmund H. Turner, of Altoona.	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	195 201 255 228 238 186	Portage..... Standing Stone..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Newport..... Lewistown.....	Fourth Tuesday. First Tuesday. Third Wednesday. Second Monday after F. M. Third Tuesday.
16	Jno. P. Clark, of Newport.	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	195 201 255 228 238 186	Portage..... Standing Stone..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Newport..... Lewistown.....	Fourth Tuesday. First Tuesday. Third Wednesday. Second Monday after F. M. Third Tuesday.
17	Philip M. Hockheimer, of Uniontown.	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	195 201 255 228 238 186	Portage..... Standing Stone..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Newport..... Lewistown.....	Fourth Tuesday. First Tuesday. Third Wednesday. Second Monday after F. M. Third Tuesday.
18	Geter C. Shidle, of Pittsburgh.	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	195 201 255 228 238 186	Portage..... Standing Stone..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Newport..... Lewistown.....	Fourth Tuesday. First Tuesday. Third Wednesday. Second Monday after F. M. Third Tuesday.
19	And. W. Cox, of Oil City.	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	Altoona..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Perry..... Mifflin..... Juniata..... Washington..... Washington..... Fayette..... Fayette..... Greene..... Somerset.....	195 201 255 228 238 186	Portage..... Standing Stone..... Bedford..... Clearfield..... Newport..... Lewistown.....	Fourth Tuesday. First Tuesday. Third Wednesday. Second Monday after F. M. Third Tuesday.

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.		
		COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	NO.	NAME.	NIGHT OF MEETING.
20	Mathias H. Henderson, of Sharon.	Venango.....	Oil City.....	236	Oil City.....	Second Thursday.
		Warren.....	Warren.....	235	Occidental.....	Second Monday.
		Forrest.....				
		Clarion.....	Edenburg.....	259	Eden	
		Jefferson.....	Brookville	225	Jefferson.....	First Monday.
		Mercer.....	Greenville	212	Mound.....	Second and Fourth Monday.
		Mercer.....	Sharon.....	244	Norman.....	Second Friday.
		Lawrence	New Castle.....	170	Delta	Monday on or before F. M.
		Crawford.....	Conneautville.....	187	Oriental.....	First and Third Friday.
		Crawford.....	Meadville.....	191	Solomon's.....	First Tuesday.
		Crawford.....	Titusville.....	207	Aaron.....	Third Friday.
		Erie.....	Corry.....	200	Columbus.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
		Erie.....	Girard.....	213	Girard.....	Second Friday.
		Erie.....	Erie.....	215	Temple.....	Second Friday.
		Erie.....	North-East.....	253	North-East.....	Second and Fourth Monday.

1879.

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS
OF THE
GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

JOSEPH R. CHANDLER,
EDWARD P. LESCURE,
DANIEL THOMPSON,
BENJAMIN PARKE,
JEREMIAH L. HUTCHINSON,
GEORGE W. WOOD,
SAMUEL C. PERKINS.
GEORGE GRISCOM,
MICHAEL NISBET,
CHARLES E. MEYER,
ANDREW ROBENO, JR.,
GEORGE E. WAGNER,
ALFRED R. POTTER,
WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, M.D.

REPRESENTATIVES

TO AND FROM

SISTER GRAND CHAPTERS.

TO PENNSYLVANIA.			FROM PENNSYLVANIA.		
SAMUEL C. PERKINS, .	<i>Louisiana,</i>	. . .	HENRY R. SWASEY.		
	<i>New Jersey,</i>	. . .	JOHN WOOLVERTON.		
ALFRED R. POTTER, .	<i>New York,</i>	. . .	JOHN W. SIMONS.		
MICHAEL NISBET, .	<i>Nova Scotia,</i>	. . .			
	<i>Missouri,</i>	. . .	OREN ROOT, JR.		
MICHAEL NISBET, .	<i>Oregon,</i>	. . .	JAMES R. BAYLEY.		
JOHN L. YOUNG, .	<i>Maine,</i>	. . .	MARQUIS F. KING.		
	<i>Tennessee,</i>	. . .	GEORGE W. JENKINS.		
ANDREW ROBENO, JR.,	<i>Maryland,</i>	. . .			
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Illinois,</i>	. . .	ASA W. BLAKELEY.		
HORACE FRITZ, .	<i>Wisconsin,</i>	. . .			
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>South Carolina,</i>	. . .			
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Iowa,</i>	. . .			
DAVID B. TAYLOR, .	<i>District of Columbia,</i>	. . .			
THOMAS R. PATTON, .	<i>Nebraska,</i>	. . .	WILLIAM R. BOWEN.		
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Massachusetts,</i>	. . .			
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Supreme Grand Chap-</i>				
	<i>ter of Scotland,</i>	. . .	LINDSAY MACKERSY.		
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Grand Mark Lodge of</i>				
	<i>England,</i>	. . .	WM. J. HUGHAN.		
CHARLES E. MEYER, .	<i>Quebec,</i>	. . .	FRANK EDGAR.		
	<i>Nevada,</i>	. . .	LEON M. L. BALD-		
			WIN.		
THOMAS R. PATTON, .	<i>Canada,</i>	. . .			
GEORGE W. WOOD, .	<i>Virginia,</i>	. . .			

PISL-11
10M-3-48



366.1

P 3862
1878-79

Freemasons. Penna. Grand
royal arch chapter.

Proceedings.

330095

PISL-14
20M-2-43

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

366.1

STATE LIBRARY

P 3862

HARRISBURG

1878-79

In case of failure to return the books the borrower agrees to pay the original price of the same, or to replace them with other copies. The last borrower is held responsible for any mutilation.

Return this book or money before the last date stamped below

330095

JUL 19 1994

